

# Nurses given 15% to stave off NHS crisis

## Treasury pledge to fund £749m cost of increase

● The Government yesterday eased the crisis in the National Health Service by awarding nurses an average rise of 15.3 per cent, funded in full by the Treasury

● The introduction of revised grading structures will mean some nurses increasing their earnings by as much as 60 per cent under the £749m award

● 100,000 doctors and dentists will benefit from average rises of 7.9 per cent, and members of the armed forces will receive an extra 6.4 per cent

● Senior Civil Servants and high-ranking officers in the services will see their salaries increased by 5.4 per cent, and judges will benefit by 7.4 per cent

By Robin Oakley and Jill Sherman

The Government took the steam out of the National Health Service crisis yesterday by awarding 487,000 nurses an average 15.3 per cent pay increase and by pledging to fund it in full from Treasury reserves.

The announcement on funding will avert the risk of health authorities having to close hospital wards to find the money to meet pay increases.

Ministers hope that it will

give them political breathing space in which to review the future structure of the NHS.

Nurses, midwives and health visitors will receive increases which in 90 per cent of cases will range between 4.2 per cent and 33.6 per cent.

However, the introduction of a new grading structure will mean that a few nurses could see their pay increase by as much as 60 per cent.

The Government has accepted and will implement in

Plans for a lottery to help to fund the NHS, first revealed by *The Times* yesterday, could provide no more than icing on the cake and will be no solution for the existing crisis of funding, health authorities and the medical profession warn.

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full the awards of the pay review bodies for four other groups.

Professions allied to medicine, including physiotherapists, radiographers and occupational therapists, will get average increases of 8.8 per cent.

About 100,000 doctors and dentists will be awarded average rises of 7.9 per cent. The 320,000 members of the armed forces will get an average of 6.4 per cent.

Those in the so-called "top salaries" group, about 2,000 senior Civil Servants and top-ranking service officers, will get 5.4 per cent. Judges have been awarded 7.4 per cent.

However, these two categories will receive only 4 per cent backdated to April 1, like the nurses, and will have to wait until October for the balance of their award.

The nurses, doctors and dentists and other medical groups awards are to be funded from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's contingency reserve at a cost of £749 million, bringing the additional spending on the NHS this year to £1.8 billion. The other pay awards will be met from within existing public expenditure totals.

The pay awards will cost £803 million for nurses, £45 million for allied medical staff

## The hijacked Princess



Princess Ebtessam al-Sabah, one of three members of the Kuwaiti Royal Family held hostage on the hijacked airliner, looking remarkably relaxed after her ordeal before flying back to Kuwait from Algiers yesterday. Hijack aftermath, page 7; Howe pressure, page 24.

## Hackers win in test case on computers

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Hacking into computers for amusement is not a criminal offence, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

In an important test case, the five Law Lords unanimously upheld a Court of Appeal ruling that two computer hackers who broke into British Telecom's Prestel computerized information service using home computers in 1984 had gained access by a trick, rather than a criminal offence.

Mr Stephen Gold, aged 32, an accountant of Watt Lane, Sheffield, and Mr Robert Schifreen, aged 25, a computer magazine editor, of Edgware, north-west London, made unauthorized alterations to data and changed account holders without their knowledge.

Mr Schifreen was said to have got into the Duke of Edinburgh's computer files and left messages. He later told police that he had been greeted by the message "Good afternoon, HRH Duke of Edinburgh" in Prince Philip's electronic mailbox.

On uncovering the breach of security, British Telecom brought the pair to court on the basis that such hacking could be covered by 1981 Forgery and Counterfeiting Act. In 1986 Southwark Crown Court fined Mr Gold £600 and Mr Schifreen £750, with £1,000 costs each.

However, last summer, the two won appeals against the conviction. In the Court of Appeal, Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, had said: "Their conduct amounted in essence to dishonestly gaining access to the relevant Prestel data bank by a trick. That is not a criminal offence. If it is thought desirable to make it so, that is a matter for the legislature rather than the courts."

Lord Lane said in the Appeal Court that the prosecution had to prove that the hackers had made a "false instrument", which they intended to pass off as genuine.

However, the case appeared to be that a machine was both the "false instrument" the men had made and the third party they intended to deceive. That would be an "absurdity".

Yesterday, Lord Brandon said that he shared Lord Lane's view that the prosecution was an attempt to "force the facts of the case into the language of an Act not designed to fit them".

He said that the two hackers had wanted to prove their skill, rather than gain any benefit. "It never occurred to them that they might be committing any offences under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981", he said.

Lord Keith of Kinkell, Lord Templeman, Lord Oliver and Lord Goff agreed in dismissal.

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ing the prosecution's appeal against the Court of Appeal's ruling.

Afterwards, Mr Schifreen said: "I knew from the start that the Forgery Act is not designed to apply to unauthorized access to computers and that has now been proved."

"I am not saying computer hacking should be legal, but there should be a specific law to cover it."

In spite of yesterday's ruling, hacking carried out deliberately for gain, or to inflict damage on a company can be construed by courts as an existing offence, such as fraud or malicious damage.

The Home Office said last night that it was awaiting the recommendations of the Law Commission before making a decision about the need for legislation to cover unauthorized access of computers. The commission is investigating whether hacking for amusement should be made a criminal offence, and is likely to submit its report before the end of the year.

## Concessions fail to halt fresh poll tax revolt

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government failed last night to avert another Conservative backlash revolt over the poll tax in spite of concessions designed to soften the impact of the new uniform business rate.

As foreshadowed in *The Times* yesterday, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, told MPs during the resumed report of the Local Government Finance Bill that he was taking powers to extend the existing five-year transitional period for the introduction of the new system to cover the five years after 1995.

The aim is to enable the Government to set lower ceilings in the first five years after business rates revaluation in 1990 than would otherwise have been the case.

He also announced that small firms would have a lower ceiling on their rate rises in the five years after 1990 than large ones. He indicated clearly to Conservative MPs that the figure for small firms is likely to be 5 per cent lower.

Mr Ridley failed, however, to satisfy Conservative MPs worried about the large rises that firms in many Tory areas will still have to face. He resisted strong pressure to disclose what the ceiling for business rates rises would be.

He said that he could make an "awful mess" of it if he announced now that it would be 20 per cent, 15 per cent or 10 per cent and it turned out to be unnecessarily high or low after revaluation. Mr Ridley said: "We cannot set the ceiling until we have the preliminary results of the revaluation."

MPs complained they were being asked to take decisions amid great uncertainty over what the effects of the change to a uniform rate and revaluation would be.

Mr Richard Shepherd, Conservative MP for Aldridge Brownhills, complained of a "most speculative redistribution". He said: "We have not a clue how it will hurt people or help people. We do not know this information."

He called on Mr Ridley to withdraw the business rate part of the Bill pending revaluation.

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## Hailsham appointed to Garter

## Britain plans curb on 'sky marshals'

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of Saint Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor, has been appointed to the Order of the Garter, widely regarded as the world's most exclusive honour. He joins the Queen's select band of 24 elder statesmen belonging to Britain's highest order of chivalry.

Buckingham Palace last night announced that Lord Hailsham, aged 80, who served under six Prime Ministers was to be appointed with Viscount Levenshulme, a former Senior Steward of the Jockey Club.

The Garter insignia includes a collar in gold and enamel, a badge called the Great George, a sash and the Garter itself of embroidered velvet, worn just below the knee.

The appointments follow the recent deaths of Garter members Lord Rhodes and Lord Cobbold.

Britain is to clamp down on the growing number of airlines who employ armed "sky marshals" to protect their jets from possible hijacks.

Every airline flying into Britain is to be told that no automatic weapons will be allowed and any gun, other than a small pistol or revolver, will be seized on landing and confiscated.

There will also be a maximum of nine pistols allowed on any aircraft, however big.

British airlines are already forbidden from carrying armed guards but many foreign airlines now routinely employ armed guards to protect either the aircraft itself or prominent passengers.

There has recently been a dramatic increase both in the number and firepower of the weapons carried, with some airlines arming their sky marshals with sub-machine-guns and shotguns.

The Customs have told operators that they believe the type and number of firearms on board aircraft is sometimes greater than is necessary for the protection of the aircraft.

Details of the crackdown are being drawn up for implementation from May 1 because of worries that the Kuwait hijack could encourage some airlines, especially from the Middle East, to arm their own guards even more heavily.

The Department of Transport said last night: "We have never believed that armed sky marshals were the right way to tackle the problem and that greater emphasis should be placed on security on the ground. But if some airlines want to use them we are insisting that they do so on the basis of our own regulations."

Whitehall condemned hijackers "non-persons", page 7

## Gore calls off his presidential bid

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, who finished third in the New York primary with only 10 per cent of the vote, yesterday suspended his presidential campaign, but did not pull out of the race.

He told a news conference yesterday that he was remaining a candidate technically so that his delegates could go to the convention. But he said the nomination should go to either Governor Michael Dukakis or the Reverend Jesse Jackson.

"I want no part of a stop Jackson or stop Dukakis movement," he said. "The

only man I want to stop is George Bush."

Senator Gore had not won a primary since Super Tuesday, when he won seven states in the south. Since then his campaign has floundered.

His decision not to release his delegates will anger Mr Jackson, who would have picked up many of them in states where he came second.

Mr Gore's supporters in Tennessee urged him to withdraw, noting that at 40 he is still young enough to run again. Governor Ned McWherter said Tennesseans were proud of him.

## Shall I compare thee to a Shakespeare fake?

By Alan Hamilton

"Isn't it extraordinary," shouted Professor A.L. Rowse from the end of a telephone line, and his patience, at his home in Cornwall, "that any tiny thing relating to Shakespeare sends people absolutely haywire?"

Professor Rowse, onetime begueter of the Dark Lady of the Sonnets, is one of the few outsiders to have set eyes on what is being claimed as a hitherto undiscovered poem by Shakespeare unearthed in a Californian library by Professor Peter Levi, holder of the chair of poetry at Oxford University. That it is the work of Will himself is, according to Dr Rowse, improbable to say the least.

Professor Levi and his publishers, Macmillan, have promised to unveil

the poem at a press conference in London on Monday. Macmillan were being exceedingly coy about it yesterday until they were pressed into revealing that they have sold the text to a national newspaper. The academic community is singularly unimpressed.

"Shakespeare was so famous that everybody has already published every scrap that he ever wrote," Dr Rowse said yesterday. "While the verses are rather better than some previous alleged Shakespeare finds, and while Peter Levi has a good ear for poetry, the hand of Shakespeare can be no more than a remote possibility."

Professor Philip Brockbank, editor of the Cambridge University Press Shakespeare series and recently retired head of the Shakespeare Institute

at Birmingham University, was more blunt. "There has been no valid Shakespeare discovery since *Pericles*," he said. "It remains to be seen whether Professor Levi's supposed discovery is an event of scholarship or an event of publicity."

Great attempts had been made to find Shakespeare's missing play *Love's Labour's Won*, but the only texts ever found had been proved to be 18th-century forgeries.

Professor Levi's supposed discovery is a collection of short poems of four verses each, composed as though from a number of different women and written down by Shakespeare's regular copyist, Ralph Crane. "It is the case with such material that if you are predisposed to find the evidence you are looking for, then you will find it,"

Professor Brockbank said. "Why there should be such a fuss over what is claimed to be a minor attributed poem, when most of Shakespeare's genuine poems remain unread, is a mystery."

Scholars are generally dismissive of the last Shakespearean brouhaha in 1985, when Mr Gary Taylor, a young American researcher at Oxford, claimed to have found an unknown manuscript of the Bard in the Bodleian Library. Taylor's poem was a non-event. It has now settled down as a minor attributed work," Professor Brockbank said.

Dr Tom Matheson, deputy director of the Shakespeare Institute, was equally unimpressed. "Loads of plays and poems have been attributed to

Continued on page 24, col 5

## Surge in lending feeds fear of higher inflation

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Fears of a resurgence in inflation were raised yesterday by figures showing an acceleration in money and credit growth. But the figures pushed the pound higher on the foreign exchange markets as they made a cut in base rates less likely.

Record mortgage borrowing, helped by Budget tax cuts, the mortgage rate war and strong growth in incomes, is being accompanied by heavy borrowing by companies.

The figures would normally

point to the need for the Treasury to raise interest rates. But sterling's strength prevents this. The pound closed half a cent up at \$1.8990 and traded at \$1.90 in New York last night. It also rose by nearly a penny to just below DM3.16.

The money supply figures showed a £4.7 billion increase in bank lending and a £6.6 billion rise in bank and building society lending combined, last month. Details, page 25

Comment, page 27

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● With two daily prize winners yesterday, the Portfolio Accumulator fund stands today to £42,000.

● Yesterday's winners: page 3

### THE TIMES STOCKWATCH

● This week *The Times* introduces STOCKWATCH - the most comprehensive financial information phone-line service in Britain, and free to *Times* readers.

● STOCKWATCH will give instant access to more than 10,000 shares, unit trusts and bond prices. And in the STOCKWATCHER competition there are unit trusts worth £50,000 to be won: details, page 26

### TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

● Schools' Final, Round Five: page 14

### TIMES FOCUS

Northern England is taking on a new look as more and more economic opportunities are being created says a Special Report..... Pages 34-36

### IN PART 2

### Penalty points

Football clubs with poor disciplinary records face having League points deducted, if a plan, proposed yesterday by the Football League and Professional Footballers' Association is ratified by the FA this summer..... Page 44

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Escort agency 'run at council'

Claims that a model and escort agency supplying women for clients was run from the treasurer's department of a local authority are being investigated. Two accountancy assistants working for the Birmingham City Council treasurer have been suspended on full pay and face a disciplinary hearing.

Calling cards issued by the agency gave telephone numbers inside the treasurer's department. They were handed out at exhibitions and functions attended by businessmen in the city, including at the National Exhibition Centre. It is believed clients were offered women for nights out and photographic sessions.

Officials launched the investigation after becoming suspicious about telephone calls to the treasurer's department which were monitored on a computerized logging system installed to check unauthorized calls. One was said to be from a woman asking about a job with the agency.

The suspended officers are Mr Brian Jackson, a former president of the Birmingham branch of the National and Local Government Officers' Association and Mr Tom Doherty. They were not available for comment yesterday. The union said the men, both members, would receive the assistance and representation to which they were entitled.

Forty security staff employed by the city council are also facing disciplinary action, for making unauthorized telephone calls while on duty late at night. One of the calls was to the United States and cost more than £80. They were investigated when their late night calls were detected by the same telephone logging system which revealed the alleged escort agency.

## Rail death inquiry

British Rail has ordered an inquiry into the death of a workman and the injury of another when they were hit by a passenger train in a tunnel near Crowborough, East Sussex, yesterday. The injured man had an arm and a leg severed. The men, from British Rail's signal and telecommunications depot at New Cross, south London, lay in the tunnel until the driver of the next train saw them. British Rail said last night that the train driver had reported that he might have hit something in the tunnel but was not sure, and the next train was stopped and warned.

## University jobs fear

Up to twenty lecturers at Sussex University may have to be made compulsorily redundant because of a sharp drop in applications from overseas students last year, the university announced yesterday. Sir Leslie Fielding, the vice-chancellor, said Sussex's financial position had taken a rapid turn for the worse because it had recruited 100 fewer overseas students than planned. He said the university was facing an annual deficit of more than £500,000, and called for a "fundamental re-examination of what we teach, how we teach and who we teach it to".

## Abolition opposed

A big majority of the public is opposed to the abolition of the county councils as a tier of local government, according to a survey by Market and Opinion Research International (MORI). The restructuring of local government, possibly involving the end of county councils, is among themes being discussed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher's advisers for the Conservative Party manifesto for the next election. However, the MORI poll, which involved questioning 1,000 people in March, discloses that 62 per cent of adults in England and Wales oppose abolition of the councils.

## Operas at cut-price

Covent Garden's new production of Michael Tippett's opera, *The Knot Garden*, will have its premiere at an Operatic Promenade Concert next Friday, conducted by Sir Edwardes, the Royal Opera's first woman conductor. For the first full production of the opera since 1972, the 552 stalls seats at the Royal Opera House, which usually cost between £23 and £60, will be removed, making room for 700 people to sit on the floor at a cost of £4 a ticket. Other productions are *Salome*, Zeffirelli's *Lucia di Lammermoor* and the Royal Ballet's *Swan Lake*.

## Karpov nears goal

Anatoli Karpov, the former world chess champion, won his game against the Belgian player, Winants, in the sixteenth round of the Swift World Cup tournament in Brussels and leads by a full point with only one round left. The challenge of John Nunn, the British grandmaster, faded when he drew his game against the Russian, Andrei Sokolov. Round 16 results: Winants lost to Karpov; Andersson drew with Sax; Nogueiras drew with Seirawan; Tal drew with Korchnoi; Portisch vs. Nollert; Belavsky drew with Speelman; Timman lost to Ljubojevic; Nunn drew with Sokolov. Salov, free round.

## Police raid homes in Belfast

## 13 held over killings of two soldiers

By Michael Horswell

Detectives investigating the deaths of two soldiers during a Provisional IRA funeral last month were last night questioning 13 men arrested in early morning raids on their homes in West Belfast.

All of them were taken to the RUC Special Branch interrogation centre at Castlebragh in East Belfast.

Soldiers stood by as the arrests were made by armed uniformed police in co-ordinated raids within the space of 15 minutes beginning at 4.50am.

Five men have already been remanded in custody or on bail in connection with the killing of Corporals Derek Wood, aged 24, and David Howes, aged 23, of the Royal Corps of Signals, who are believed to have inadvertently driven into the cortege at the funeral of Kevin Brady, a Provisional IRA volunteer.

The RUC declined to comment on the arrests but Provisional Sinn Féin confirmed that one of those detained is Terence "Clecky" Clarke, aged 40.

He was the chief steward at the funeral of Brady, who was one of three mourners killed in a "loyalist" gun and grenade attack on the joint funeral of the three Gibraltar bombers three days earlier.

Clarke was arrested at his home in the Ardoyne district. Two men have already been charged with murdering the corporals. A third has been charged with causing grievous bodily harm to Corporal

Howes, another with withholding information from the police, and a fifth with exchanging a pair of trousers with a man believed to have been involved in the killings.

Another of those detained is known to be Jim Neeson, chairman of the Falls Taxi Association, the umbrella organization which covers the large fleet of black ex-London cabs working the Falls district.

The corporals' car was hemmed in and trapped by black taxis as they attempted to drive away from the cortege. Later, after being severely beaten and stripped, they were carried in a taxi to the wasteground where they were killed.

A man working on roof repairs at the Northern Ireland High Court building in Belfast was shot by a sniper yesterday.

The sniper was firing over a distance of more than 300 yards from the bathroom win-

## Divided Dover counts cost of the strike

By Boris Johnson and John Spicer

It was lunchtime in the Nelson public house in Dover town centre when the burly leader of three National Union of Seamen pickets slammed his pint on the bar and jammed a finger at a dark-haired man on a bar stool.

"Come here and say that," he shouted. "Come here and say we should have gone back to work. It might be your turn one day."

After 12 weeks of a strike by 2,300 P&O sailors, the conflict yesterday in the town famous for its seafaring history was simple: you either supported the National Union of Seamen and the hundreds of men who had forfeited their jobs after Wednesday's deadline to sign management contracts, or you thought they should have returned to the ferries.

The reply to the bar room challenge

was: "The NUS have got 90 per cent of what they wanted. I'm not going to lose my job because of you lot." The man on the stool was a mooring hand, aged 42 with a wife and two children - and a member of the Transport and General Workers' Union. "Everyone is saying our boys won't handle P&O ships. Well, no one has balloted us. I was out of work for three years before I got this job," he added.

Nearly 24 hours earlier, the final deadline set by the company for acceptance had passed, with the ferry firm saying 57 per cent of strikers had accepted. That was enough, it said, to raise hopes of a resumption of cross Channel services by Tuesday with at least one ship on the Dover to Calais route.

The officers said they would co-operate with the resumption, provided there were enough qualified crewmen. They negotiated their own

agreement under P&O's plans to save £6 million on cross Channel routes by reducing staff and altering shift arrangements.

This morning, points "clarified" between company officials and the officers' union will be spelt out to strikers at a mass meeting in Dover. As a mark of how far relations have deteriorated, P&O issued a statement after a further round of talks yesterday describing the meeting as a "total waste of time".

After 12 weeks, during which savings have been eroded and widespread hardship has been caused, it looks as though the management has beaten the strikers by persuading 900 of their colleagues to sign up. About 1,400 seamen have been dismissed.

"Many of us have been ill with worry over this past week," Mr Neil O'Hare, formerly assistant boss of the Pride of Calais, said. Mrs Jeanette

Leitch, who was a stewardess on the Pride of Canterbury, said: "My sister has split up with her husband, who was a purser, because they are so hard up."

They were among pickets handing leaflets to lorry drivers at the Eastern Docks. All could recite the number of the hotline P&O had kept open for those ready to capitulate, and thought hard about not accepting.

"I had to take a job as a taxi driver," Mr Kevin Mahoney, aged 31, said. "But I want to go back to sea. I first went to the deep sea when I was 13 as a deck boy. But you can't work under these new arrangements."

"Even the taxi driving hardly lets me feed my wife and child. Daytime business is 50 per cent down since the strike began. It has destroyed the local economy, and it is wrecking the town."

## Backlog of citizenship applications 'scandalous'

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

A mountainous backlog of unacknowledged and unopened applications for British citizenship has been condemned as scandalous by a Conservative-controlled committee of MPs.

By late February there were 207,000 applications awaiting attention at the Home Office Immigration and Nationality Department at Lunnar House in Croydon, south London, and 70,000 passports were being held "indefinitely".

The Commons home affairs committee will publish a scathing report on Monday, describing the hold ups as a "substantial indictment" of Home Office administration. They are causing trauma to the applicants, many of whom are living here legally but are nevertheless fearful for their future.

In evidence to the committee last February, Sir Brian Cubbon, permanent secretary at the Home Office, agreed the backlog was "unacceptable" and said the aim was to clear it within two years. However, the MPs will describe that target as "totally unacceptable" and insist the backlog be cleared by January.

The report will be acutely embarrassing to the Home Office, which last year was the butt of similarly strong criticism for the prolonged chaos at Heathrow Airport caused by overseas visitors desperate to enter Britain before visa requirements were imposed.

The "administrative chaos" at Lunnar House stems from the British Nationality Act, 1981 which entitled certain Commonwealth citizens living in this country to register as British citizens by the end of 1987.

The Home Office anticipated 90,000 applications last

year but received 300,000. The committee describes the preparations as hopelessly inadequate. Sir Brian, in his evidence, conceded: "We got it wrong".

Contingency plans to deal with the last-minute rush proved inadequate. Immigration staff had been diverted to new terminals at Heathrow and Gatwick airports, or to assist the expanding prison service. Recruiting staff at uncompetitive rates of pay in booming Croydon was difficult.

The Home Office has taken staff from other duties to process the backlog. Extra funds are planned for Lunnar House and it is hoped to transfer some of the work to other offices.

The 10-man committee, which includes six Conservative MPs, said it still viewed the matter with "grave concern" and wanted faster action. In spite of expecting the influx and being aware of staff shortages, the Home Office did nothing to prevent Lunnar House being overwhelmed.

Long-term residents who might have grounds for understandable fears about their future status were being subjected to traumatic delay. The committee will call on the Home Office to make adequate resources immediately available and to reverse its policy of holding passports "in limbo" instead of photocopying them.

An urgent public inquiry into the running of the Immigration and Nationality Department has been demanded by one of the committee, Mr Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East, last night tabled a Commons motion, signed by about thirty colleagues.

The West German authorities, meanwhile, promised to reopen their investigation of Herr Mohnke if new evidence was presented to them. Herr Alfred Streim, director of the Nazi war crimes centre, said yesterday that Herr Mohnke had been investigated between 1973 and 1976 on allegations of complicity in the murder of 90 Canadian prisoners at Dunkirk.

Interviews with survivors, could not establish a conclusive case but "we will investigate any new evidence given to us", Herr Streim added.

A warrant officer who was a member of the investigation unit investigating the massacre of British prisoners at Wornhout said yesterday that all his evidence pointed to Wilhelm Mohnke as the general who ordered the massacre.

## Team's youngest shot

By Peter Davenport

Laura Elsworth, aged 15, is expected next month to become the youngest person ever to represent Britain in an international shooting competition.

The teenager, from Rowlands Hill, near Gillingham, Tyne and Wear, whose speciality is the air pistol, will join competitors from 10 other countries at a target shooting match at Kellinghusen, in West Germany.

She is one of 12 members of the Great Britain under-21 team for the four-day event.

Mr John Heron, the coaching administrator of the National Small Bore Rifle Association, which is organising the British entry, said yesterday that she was believed to be the youngest shooter ever to represent her country.

The discovery of her prowess at the sport came when she was asked at the age of 11 to make up the triathlon team at an athletics club near her home. At that event, using a pistol for the first time, she recorded a remarkable 87 out of 100. She entered again the next year and since then she has had coaching sessions with the national squad at Bradford, with help from Mr Colin Elsworth and his wife Freda, her parents.

Although she is in the fifth form at her school, she is forbidden by law to carry an air weapon in public because she is under 17.

She said yesterday: "I am really looking forward to being in the team, but I am not nervous at all".



Laura Elsworth, aged 15, who is likely to shoot for Britain

## War crime inquiry

## Dunkirk massacre reviewed

By Philip Webster and David Nicholson-Lord

The Ministry of Defence has reopened its files on the killing of 70 unarmed British prisoners of war near Dunkirk in 1940, the Commons was told yesterday.

They are being "rigorously re-examined" to see if there is a basis for action against Wilhelm Mohnke, a former SS major general now living near Hamburg.

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Mr Richard Richter, a retired businessman from Leamington Spa in Warwickshire, offered to hand over to any new inquiry his dossier on the investigation, which includes sworn affidavits from British survivors and voluntary statements from Germans who served in the SS unit responsible.

Mr Richter added: "All the evidence we collected pointed to Mohnke as the man who gave the orders for the massacre but we were powerless to bring him to trial."

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry

Barr, yesterday named Herr Mohnke to MPs as the man behind the massacre of the men from the Royal Warwickshire and Cheshire regiments and asked for the file to be reopened.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, said that all the material relevant to the massacre in the custody of the Ministry of Defence was being rigorously re-examined to see if it could provide the basis for the kind of action for which Mr Rooker was pressing.

He said that the British courts had no jurisdiction in the case. If information came to light it would be matter for the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, to consider making representations. Although Herr Mohnke could be tried in West Germany, he could not be extradited.

The diary item finished with the sentence: "He left FNFC in 1975 as its multi-million pound real estate venture collapsed, forcing the Government to throw it a lifeline to keep it afloat."

Announcing settlement of the libel action, Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, for Lord De L'Isle, told Mr Justice Popplewell: "The implication that Lord De L'Isle had left a sinking ship or that his departure caused the Government to come to FNFC's rescue was totally untrue."

Lord De L'Isle, had only resigned as chairman of FNFC after consulting with the Governor of the Bank of England" and after substantial support had been given to FNFC by what became known as the "libelboat", Mr Carter-Ruck said.

Mr Alastair Brett, for Times Newspapers, said the meanings attributed had not been intended and any embarrassment or distress was regretted.

**Correction**  
A comment opposing the presence of Mr Ron Brown, MP, at a forthcoming march of republican sympathisers in Lichfield should have been attributed yesterday to Mr James McLean, of the Edinburgh Loyalist Coalition, not to Mr William Sutherland, Chief Constable of Lothian.

The names and figures are disclosed in the Return of Election Expenses report published by the Home Office yesterday. Total election expenses for items such as agents, clerks, printing and stationery, public meetings and committee rooms for the 2,325 candidates in 650 seats amounted to about £8 million, an increase of 9 per cent on the 1983 election after allowing for

around 40, that he lived near Harrow, north London, and ran a video distribution company; but Mr Irving Rappaport, the agent during the campaign, said he thought Lord Buckethead had gone back into space.

Yesterday, Whitehall sources said that errand candidates were only normally prosecuted when they had deliberately overspent and been elected. The indications in the two cases revealed in the survey were that the overspending had been inadvertent.

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Yesterday, Mr Nigel Passingham, formerly Lord Buckethead's press officer, disclosed that his man's real name was Mr Michael Lee, aged

## Tougher standard of ferry safety

By Rodney Cowton  
Transport Correspondent

Measures to improve safety on passenger ships, including a greater capacity to withstand damage without capsizing, were approved yesterday by the organization which sets international standards for safety of life at sea.

They were adopted towards the end of a two-week meeting in London of the maritime safety committee of the International Maritime Organization, a United Nations body to which 131 countries belong.

Rear Admiral J. William Kime, who is leading the United States delegation, thought most traditional cruise ships such as the Queen Elizabeth II would meet the standard on capsizing.

However, calculations done in Britain on 10 roll-on roll-off passenger ferries suggested that eight would not have met the criteria, which are likely to come into force for newly built vessels in about 18 months.

In Britain, research sponsored by the Department of Transport, is being carried out on the stability of ferries. Although Britain supported the new measure, it made clear that it would press for stiffer standards if its research showed that was necessary.

Agreement was reached on proposals put forward by Britain after the Zebrugg ferry disaster, in which 193 people died when the Herald of Free Enterprise capsized in March last year - water rushed on to the vehicle decks through the open bow doors.

The proposals were roll-on roll-off passenger ferries to be fitted with indicator lights to show whether bow and stern doors have been properly closed; closed-circuit television, or other surveillance, to be installed to monitor vehicle decks; a television system for officers on the bridge to see whether the bow and stern doors are closed; emergency lighting in public areas and alterations to operate independently of main power systems and continue for three hours even when a vessel has capsized.

It is expected the proposals will be formally adopted in October and come into force internationally a year later. British ferries have already installed the equipment.

Other British proposals, designed to give ships' masters more information about the stability of their vessels, will be discussed at a meeting of the maritime safety committee in October.

Standards of stability for dry cargo ships have also been discussed. Admiral Kime said that some cargo roll-on roll-off ferries seemed to have been built virtually without regard to their ability to survive damage.

He thought it possible to greatly improve their safety.

**Peer wins apology**  
Times Newspapers yesterday apologized to Lord De L'Isle over an article in *The Times* diary in July 1985. The article referred to Lord De L'Isle's former chairmanship of First National Finance Corporation not being mentioned in the biography of Lord De L'Isle which Mr Peter Palumbo had provided on Lord De L'Isle's appointment as Chairman of the City Acre Property Investment Trust.

The diary item finished with the sentence: "He left FNFC in 1975 as its multi-million pound real estate venture collapsed, forcing the Government to throw it a lifeline to keep it afloat."

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## Lord Buckethead faces a case of no returns

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Lord Buckethead, the Grenloids Party candidate who sought to deprive the Prime Minister of her Finchley field, has been reported to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Others facing the threat of legal action in the wake of the general election include Mrs Yasmin Anwar, who stood for the Red Front in Hackney North and Stoke Newington; Miss Michaela St Vincent, the Gold Party candidate in Finchley; Mr Thomas Layton, the author and Spare the Earth candidate in Hove; and Mr George Weiss, who stood for the Rainbow Alliance candidate in the University Party in Oxford East.

Their offence, as might be supposed, is not that they attempted to challenge the hegemony of the established political parties. More precisely, they are among 15 general election candidates who have failed to submit expenses returns to the returning officer.

Eleven come from what has been unkindly described as the lunatic fringe of politics and four from the mainstream - two from the SDP-Liberal Alliance, one from Plaid Cymru and one from the Scottish National Party.

In addition, Mr Richard Jenkins, who stood unsuccessfully for the Conservatives in Orkney and Shetland, and Mr David Shutt, the beaten Alliance candidate in Calder Valley both breached the official expenses limits for their constituencies. They too have been reported to the prosecuting authorities.

Mr Jenkins spent £5,365.83, about £800 more than the £4,560.62 limit. He polled 4,959 votes, which means each supporter cost him more than £1 apiece. Mr Shutt only just exceeded his limit, spending £6,229.63 against a ceiling of £6,191.84.

Yesterday, it seemed that the

authorities would be in some difficulty if they tried to prosecute Lord Buckethead, who reputedly lives in a secret mansion and campaigned in Finchley in a chauffeur-driven limousine. Apparently, during his campaign, he refused to give any personal details and hid his identity beneath a bucket-like creation on his head.

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# Ban on brain cell transplants sought to stop exploitation

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The use of transplanted brain cells from aborted human foetuses to help sufferers of disabling conditions could become a huge commercial business, delegates at a conference on medical ethics were told yesterday.

A consultant gynaecologist called for a ban on the transplants, two of which have been carried out recently in Birmingham.

The operations, still at an experimental stage, are intended to help patients with Parkinson's disease by replacing the missing chemical dopamine, which is necessary for the control of physical movement.

Dr Pamela Sims, of Hexham, Northumberland, said there was a danger that foetal brain tissue could be bought and sold and even that some women might deliberately become pregnant to provide surgeons and researchers with the material.

Mrs Jean Robinson, a lay member of the General Medical Council, also warned delegates during the debate at the International Conference on the Philosophical Ethics of Reproductive Medicine at Leeds University, that the practice could become "very big business". She said it was essential that women con-

templating an abortion were fully informed of the possible use of the foetus.

Dr Sims said: "There should be a complete moratorium on these operations until there has been an adequate public debate. I feel extreme disquiet about the commercial interest that may result from this practice."

"If there were to be a shortage of foetuses available for this purpose some women might get pregnant in order to meet the demand. This is only one step further down the road from where we now stand."

Dr Sims, who is a member of Life, the anti-abortion organization, said: "Although abortion is legal that does not make it right."

"I do not believe that in the case of foetal tissue transplants something good can come out of something that is morally wrong. The end does not justify the means."

Mrs Robinson said: "This is going to be very big business. It will build into a market of enormous commercial value. Once women realize what the issues are they will be very angry indeed if they are not given a voice in the disposal of foetal tissue."

Dr Richard West, chairman of the Hospital Ethics Com-

mittee which approved the Birmingham operations, told the conference that the committee had not discussed at any length the need for the women undergoing the abortions to be asked to consent to the use of the foetal material.

"The situation seemed to us to be very similar to that of a typical cadaver transplant case", he said.

"We were satisfied with the ethical issues and the women had signed a disclaimer about their rights in the disposal of the foetuses."

Dr Soren Holm, a Danish specialist from Copenhagen, said: "Doctors should obtain explicit informed consent from such women. Few of these patients are likely to be aware that the foetus may be used for research or for operations of this kind."

Dr Raanon Gillon, editor of the *Journal of Medical Ethics*, told the conference: "If it is legitimate to perform an abortion there has to be some very special moral justification to say that it is wrong to offer the aborted material for transplantation."

The British Medical Association is now in the process of drafting guidelines on the ethics of foetal tissue transplants.

Letters, page 17

## Cash cuts 'condemn babies'

By David Cross

Some newborn babies were being condemned to death or to living handicapped lives because of a shortage of government funds, a leading paediatrician, Professor Neil McIntosh of Edinburgh University, said yesterday at the launch of a pressure group called Action for the Newborn.

He said that about 14,000 of the 700,000 babies born each year needed intensive care to survive and another 100,000 some specialized help.

The formation of the group, which seeks improved hospital facilities for premature and sick babies, coincides with renewed controversy among doctors about the ethics of allowing very frail newborn babies to die by withholding

or withdrawing medical treatment.

On Thursday Professor Alexander Campbell, head of the department of child health at Aberdeen University, said doctors were sometimes justified in withdrawing treatment from very low weight babies who either had little chance of survival or risked being severely brain-damaged. In his view 750 grams was a "flexible level below which medical intervention should not be continued".

Dr John Baum, professor of child health at Bristol University, said yesterday that doctors should not try too hard to keep a child alive who might survive with serious brain handicaps, particularly if it penalized a child who might

survive. But parents must be fully consulted.

"If you had major bleeding in the brain or heart failure, you would have to consider whether it was worth continuing treatment", Dr Baum said.

Professor Osmond Reynolds, professor of neonatal paediatrics at University College, London, said: "With a policy of withdrawing medical intervention from babies under 1,000 grams, you might find two babies being admitted at the same time one weighing 1,005 grams and the other 995 grams."

"But the bigger baby could be in a ghastly shape and the smaller one laughing away. It would make no sense at all to keep the heavier baby alive and let the lighter one die."

## £3m gift for child hospital

By Robin Young

Mr Mohamed Al-Fayed, the chairman and owner of Harrods, has given the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, central London, the most advanced body scanner in the world, costing £3 million.

Mr Al-Fayed, who visited the hospital yesterday to see the machine working, is also paying for all operating costs for the first year, during which the scanner will be used to examine up to 2,000 children suffering from diseases of the brain and spinal cord.

The magnetic resonance imaging unit, built by Siemens of West Germany, is the first to be installed in a children's hospital in Britain. It produces three dimensional images from within the patient's body without using potentially harmful X-rays, and can reveal conditions that X-rays would not detect.

Mr Al-Fayed, whose son Karim was once a patient at the hospital, has never allowed his support for it to be publicized before.

The hospital has recently raised more than £16 million towards its £30 million redevelopment appeal.

## Cautious welcome for NHS lottery

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Health authorities and the medical profession yesterday said the new lottery for the National Health Service was no solution to the present funding crisis.

Dr John Marks, chairman of the council of the British Medical Association, said the lottery, which could raise a maximum of £40 million a year for the health service, should be seen only as the icing on the cake. "We need proper funding for the NHS from taxation", Dr Marks said.

The National Association of Health Authorities said the scheme, which has been set up by the National Hospital Trust and will draw the first prizes on TV-am on May 25, would provide a welcome boost to NHS funds. But Miss Yvonne Mounier, the association's deputy director, said health authorities would be unable to rely on the extra money.

Sir Douglas Black, the chairman of the National Hospital Trust, also emphasized yesterday that the funds from the lottery should not be seen as an alternative to adequate finance from taxation. A weekly prize of up to £200,000 may be awarded.

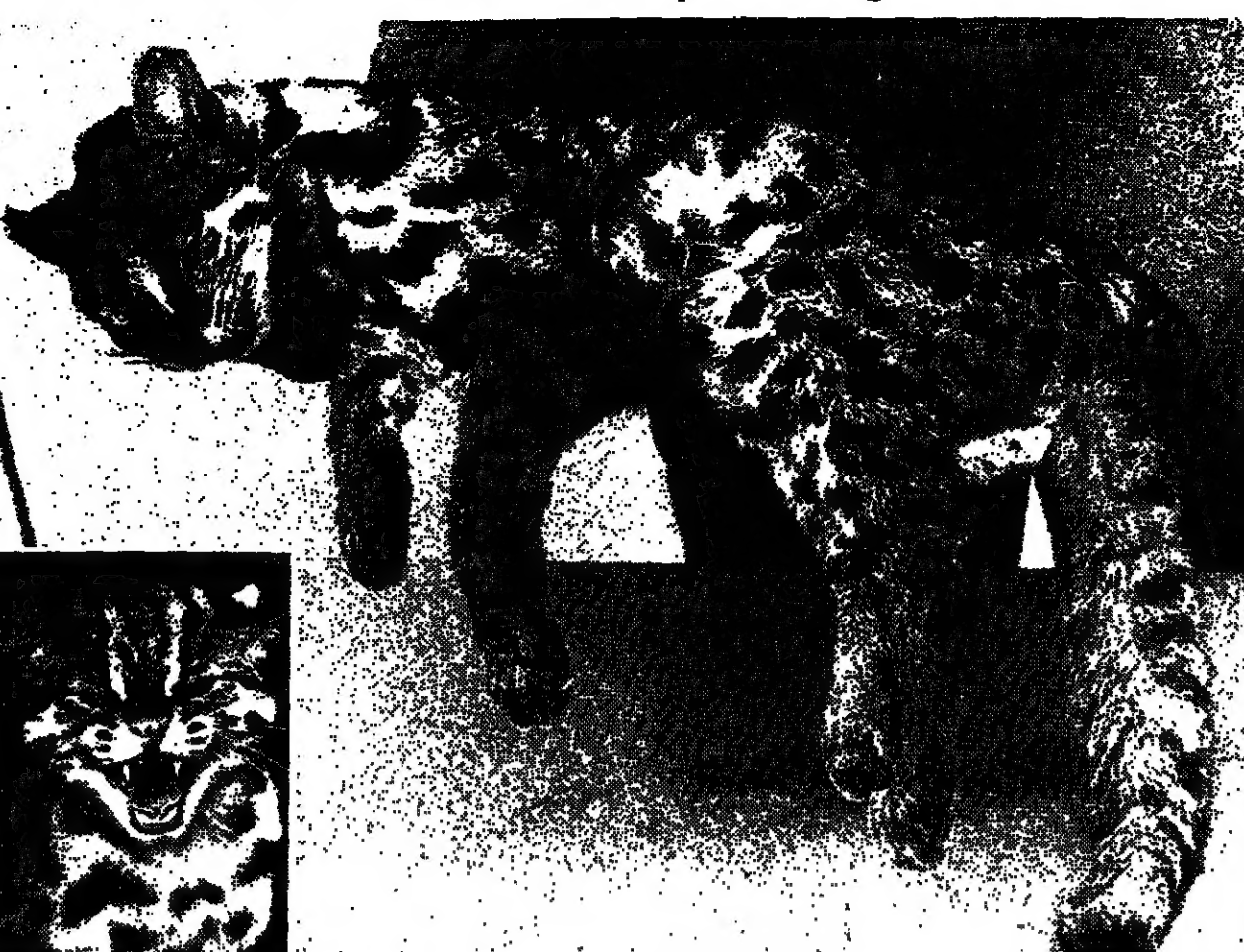
The Department of Health and Social Security said ministers were concerned that resources could be diverted from other charities and it could give no guarantee that the Government would not take into account the income from the lottery when allocating funds, although that was unlikely at this stage.

The trust says that the maximum turnover possible within the present gambling laws would be £150 million a year. Half the income will go on prize money, 15 per cent on administration and the remainder will be distributed to Britain's health authorities.

The man behind the new scheme is Mr Roger Cummings, from the Loto consultancy, who indicated that if it was not successful within six weeks his company would pull out.

Under existing laws local authorities can run lotteries with a maximum prize of £2,000, or £6,000 if they are registered with the Gaming Board. The trust has registered as 100 local lotteries and participants will be invited to contribute up to £2 to each combined weekly draw.

## Exmoor beast mystery lives on



For a while yesterday West Country farmers clung hopefully to rumours that the body of this animal, shot after it was reported chasing geese, was that of the Beast of Exmoor, the creature with a five inch paw span blamed for killing hundreds of sheep and lambs five years ago.

It was likely that a licensed keeper of exotic cats had a surplus of kittens and allowed the cat to go free.

Devon and Cornwall Police said it was "highly unlikely" the animal was responsible for the deaths of any lambs across the area and hence it was just a "rogue" animal. "The media idea that there is one Beast of Exmoor is probably just mythology".

A veterinary surgeon identified the shot animal and notified the Ministry of Agriculture as a precaution against rabies. The ministry decided that the cat, a young male aged six to eight months, was not imported and was too young to have attempted breeding.

## Whisky industry urges united stand

By Colin Narbrough

The Scotch Whisky Association yesterday appealed to the drinks industry for a united stand against the "new prohibitionists", which it regards as a serious threat to the industry.

The association is relieved that the Chancellor did not follow the anti-alcohol lobby's advice by increasing duties on wines and spirits in the Budget, but the call for a counter offensive indicates the industry's anxiety.

Mr Richard Grindal, secretary of the association's Alcohol Research and Education Committee, addressing a meeting of the Wine and Spirit Association of Scotland in said that the present campaign was more menacing than earlier temperance movements.

The prohibition movement had cleverly linked drinking with health.

## Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Win pays for thatch repairs

The thatched roof of a cottage in Cambridgeshire will soon be in a state of improved repair after its owner shared the £4,000 first prize in the Portfolio Gold competition.

Mr Frank Tow, a tax consultant, of West Wickham, Cambridge, has been intending for some time to do work on his house. Apart from the roof, there will be improvements to several other areas of the fifteenth-century building.

He shares today's prize with Mr Albert Cooke, of York. Mr Cooke intends to spend some of his £2,000 on a touring holiday in the Highlands of Scotland with his wife, Gladys.

Mr Cooke, aged 76, a retired local government officer, said: "It was a wonderful surprise".



Mr Cooke, planning a Highland touring holiday.

## Welsh grant

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, has allocated £248,000 to the Welsh Language Education Development Committee, including £114,000 to fund the in-service training of teachers using information technology.

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## Dead man linked to police killing

## Alleged informer on trial

A man who is alleged to have provided information about a police killer who was hunted for more than two years went on trial yesterday accused of 13 charges, including armed robbery and wounding.

Peter Sanderson, aged 41, was arrested after police inquiries into the death of David Gricewith, who was shot with his own gun at Teesside in February last year.

Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Sanderson had subsequently told the police that Gricewith was the man who shot and killed Sergeant John Speed and wounded another police officer at Leeds in October 1984.

Mr Rivlin told Teesside Crown Court that Gricewith would be an "important figure" in the case against Mr Sanderson, who, it was alleged, had been involved with him in a crime spree in the North from 1976 until last year.

Mr Sanderson, a builder, of Main Street, Fulford, York, denies all 13 charges, four of which relate to a £223,000

robbery at the Kirkstall Post Office, Leeds, in February 1983. It is alleged that Mr Sanderson fired a sawn-off shotgun which wounded Mr Ronald Thackray, a Post Office employee.

Mr Rivlin said Gricewith, aged 38, a garage owner, of Tholthorpe, near York, died while being chased by police from the scene of an attempted robbery at a supermarket in Cleveland.

He said Gricewith was wounded when his loaded shotgun went off as his car crashed into a wall. His death in police custody shortly afterwards "ended a long criminal career as a ruthless armed robber".

The prosecution was able to say that Gricewith had killed Sergeant Speed and wounded PC John Thorpe. "That certainly was what Sanderson was to tell the police, when they interviewed him. He had heard from Gricewith that he was the murderer in that case", Mr Rivlin said.

The police had found a replica hand gun which fired

blanks, during a search of Mr Sanderson's home. Police divers later recovered a revolver and live ammunition from the River Ouse, York.

Mr Sanderson allegedly told police that he bought the revolver in 1985 from Gricewith for £130 and had given him the impression it was for use in criminal offences. "But really he had bought it for protection against Gricewith himself", Mr Rivlin said.

Mr Sanderson faces charges relating to an attempted robbery with Gricewith at Hillside Supermarket, York, on November 13, 1976. Two other charges are connected with a £3,729 armed robbery at a Lloyds bank branch at Heslington, York, on February 2, 1977.

He is also accused of receiving from Gricewith £1,500 stolen from a post office at Crammer Bank, Moorstown, Leeds, on April 28 last year. Other charges involve an attempted armed robbery at a Leeds post office on September 1, 1982. The trial continues today.



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هكذا من الأصل



# Awards give nurses 15%, doctors 8%, judges 7%, top Civil Servants and senior officers 5% Nursing skills and experience attract the biggest increase

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Britain's 500,000 nurses were awarded an average 15.3 per cent pay rise yesterday as part of the "biggest restructuring of staff in the health industry in 40 years".

The package, which will reward nurses with extra skills and experience, also covers midwives and health visitors and gives more money to nurses working in London, where recruitment difficulties have been the most critical.

The generous increases, which the Government has agreed to fund in full and backdate to April 1, conceals individual increases for nurses of as high as 60 per cent and as low as 4 per cent.

The award centres on a new clinical grading structure agreed by staff, which will reward nurses with extra qualifications, such as paediatric or extensive care training, and those with extra experience in certain fields.

Nurses with extra responsibility will also get more to encourage them to remain on the wards rather than opting for management posts. A sister nurse II with five years' experience could see a salary jump of 60 per cent, from £10,500 to £16,350, including a 9 per cent London pay supplement.

Mr John Moore, Secretary

## NURSES PAY AWARDS

Effects of 1988 pay awards on selected nursing grades

|                 | Old Scale     | New Scale     | Increase    | %        |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------|
| Student         | 4,540-5,170   | 4,825-5,575   | 285-405     | 6.3-7.8  |
| Nursing Aux (a) | 4,585-5,855   | 5,000-6,200   | 415-445     | 9.5-7.6  |
| (b)             | 6,076-6,975   | 6,510-7,120   | 434-151     | 7.2-18.1 |
| SEN (a)         | 6,250-7,750   | 6,975-8,300   | 725-550     | 11.6-7.1 |
| (b)             | 8,025-9,200   | 8,625-9,200   | 600-0       | 7.5-0    |
| Staff Nurse (a) | 7,300-8,600   | 8,025-9,200   | 725-600     | 9.9-7.0  |
| (b)             | 9,200-10,500  | 9,925-11,200  | 725-700     | 7.8-6.7  |
| Ward Sister (a) | 9,000-12,000  | 10,200-12,500 | 1,200-500   | 13.3-4.2 |
| (b)             | 12,025-13,250 | 13,025-14,250 | 1,000-0     | 8.3-0    |
| (c)             | 13,450-15,350 | 14,650-16,550 | 1,200-1,200 | 8.9-7.8  |

1. Lateral scales indicate a range of possible outcomes for individual staff on regrading. Broadly, the higher letters for each grade will apply to those with additional skills, qualifications and responsibilities.

## Inner London

|                 | Old Scale     | New Scale     | Increase    | %         |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| Student         | 5,470-6,100   | 5,995-6,783   | 525-683     | 9.6-11.2  |
| Nursing Aux (a) | 5,495-6,785   | 6,180-7,545   | 685-760     | 12.5-11.2 |
| (b)             | 7,309-8,254   | 8,114-9,169   | 805-915     | 10.9-11.1 |
| SEN (a)         | 7,180-8,680   | 8,025-9,200   | 845-520     | 11.8-6.0  |
| (b)             | 9,200-10,500  | 9,925-11,200  | 725-700     | 7.8-6.7   |
| Staff Nurse (a) | 8,290-9,530   | 8,975-10,250  | 685-720     | 8.3-7.6   |
| (b)             | 10,550-12,050 | 11,275-12,750 | 725-700     | 6.9-5.8   |
| Ward Sister (a) | 9,530-12,930  | 10,648-14,398 | 1,118-1,468 | 11.7-11.3 |
| (b)             | 12,913-15,813 | 14,031-17,281 | 1,118-1,468 | 8.6-9.3   |
| (c)             | 15,338-17,238 | 16,550-18,550 | 1,212-1,312 | 7.9-7.6   |

1. Includes £330 Inner London weighting. 2. Includes £330 Inner London weighting and new Inner London Supplement of 5% (from £330 to £346.50). 3. The lateral scales indicate a range of possible outcomes for individual staff on regrading. Broadly, the higher letters for each grade will apply to those with additional skills, qualifications and responsibilities.

## HOSPITAL DOCTORS AND DENTISTS

|                               | 1987 Recommended scales | Recommended April 1, 1988 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| House officer                 | 8,810                   | 9,520                     |
|                               | 9,370                   | 10,130                    |
|                               | 9,930                   | 10,740                    |
| Senior house officer          | 10,980                  | 11,870                    |
|                               | 11,720                  | 12,670                    |
|                               | 12,460                  | 13,470                    |
| Registrar                     | 12,460                  | 13,470                    |
|                               | 13,090                  | 14,160                    |
|                               | 13,720                  | 14,830                    |
|                               | 14,350                  | 15,510                    |
| Senior registrar              | 15,110                  | 16,330                    |
|                               | 15,740                  | 16,960                    |
|                               | 16,370                  | 17,590                    |
| Consultant                    | 18,150                  | 19,610                    |
|                               | 20,440                  | 22,000                    |
|                               | 22,290                  | 23,850                    |
|                               | 24,140                  | 25,900                    |
|                               | 26,000                  | 28,000                    |
| Senior medical/dental officer | 25,700                  | 27,780                    |
| Associate specialist          | 16,240                  | 17,470                    |
|                               | 16,880                  | 18,255                    |
|                               | 17,520                  | 19,040                    |
|                               | 18,160                  | 19,825                    |
|                               | 18,800                  | 20,610                    |
|                               | 19,440                  | 21,395                    |
|                               | 20,080                  | 22,180                    |
| Staff grade practitioner      | 14,845                  | 16,050                    |
|                               | 15,970                  | 17,265                    |
|                               | 17,095                  | 18,480                    |
|                               | 18,220                  | 19,695                    |
|                               | 19,345                  | 20,910                    |
|                               | 20,470                  | 22,125                    |

(Salary scales excluding earnings from additional sources, such as Class A/B supplements for training grades and extra duty allowances for associate specialists)

of State for Social Services, reassured nurses that fewer than a tenth would get less than 6.3 per cent extra in their pay packets. "Less than 3 per cent will get around 4.2 per cent at one end of the range. Some will receive as much as 60 per cent at the other", he said.

He emphasized that the smaller increases would not necessarily go to newly qualified staff. A top-grade nurse sister without additional skills might only get an increase equivalent to the cost of living.

Staff nurses will receive increases of between 7 and 26 per cent and a staff nurse on the top scale working in paediatrics, intensive care or theatres could see a basic salary rise of more than £2,000 a year, or 24 per cent, to £16,350. The starting pay of a ward sister would be £10,200, an increase of 13 per cent.

Mr Moore made clear that it would take some time to implement the new structures, which affect 85 per cent of all nurses. Health authorities would have to regrade their posts and he expected individual salaries to be agreed by October 31.

In the meantime, everyone involved in the new structure would get an interim payment of 4 per cent, backdated to April 1, which nurses should receive in their pay packets by the end of June. "Salaries based on the new structure will be paid once it has been introduced and will be backdated to April 1", he said.

All qualified staff in inner London will get a supplement of 9 per cent, or up to £538 a year. Unqualified staff in inner London and all staff in outer London will receive an extra 5 per cent, or up to £532.

Mr Moore made clear that those supplements were in addition to London weighting. "They mean that a staff nurse working in an intensive care unit in central London could receive an overall pay increase of 25.7 per cent, raising basic pay to £12,538".

However, the independent review body decided not to support the Government's recommendation to introduce flexible pay which would allow health authorities to give discretionary payments where they had particular recruitment difficulties.

The award is weighted towards doctors working in the hospital and community services and while those staff will get average rises of 8.25 per cent, general practitioners will get only 7 per cent.

The Review Body on Doctors and Dentists Remuneration said it did not consider that the medical profession was suffering from recruitment difficulties although it recognized that the pool of potential students would decline in future years.

The review body report recommends that two-thirds of those subscription rates

should be reimbursed for all doctors working in the NHS. A junior doctor newly qualified will see his salary increase from £8,810 to £9,520 while a registrar's pay will jump from £12,460 to £13,470.

Dental officers will get pay rises of about £2,000 bringing their salaries up to £27,780.

The Government also announced a rise of 8.8 per cent for the professions allied to medicine which include physiotherapists, radiotherapists and chiropodists. Although that group is covered by the review body for nurses, it is awaiting its own restructuring of grades and therefore did not share in the extra rewards for nurses this year, in spite of widespread evidence of shortages in various parts of the country.

The review body report

The Government yesterday decided to phase in pay rises averaging 5.4 per cent for top Civil Servants and senior officers in the Armed Forces and 7.4 per cent for the judiciary. The 1,970 "top people" now earning between £30,000 and £81,000 a year will get a 4 per cent increase backdated to April 1 this year with the balance on October 1.

Full implementation of the award in the autumn will mean increases of £1,553 at the bottom of the ladder for immigration adjudicators and £4,250 at the top for Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Chief of the Defence Staff, and Sir Robin Butler, Head of the Civil Service and Secretary of the Cabinet.

A step below them Sir Peter Middleton, Permanent Secretary of the Treasury, gets an extra £4,000, taking his salary to £79,750. The 11 Lords of Appeal, Lord Donaldson of Lynton, the Master of the Rolls, Lord Emslie, Lord President of the Court of Session, and Lord Lowry, Lord Chief Justice in Northern Ireland, receive £4,000 increases, taking their salaries to £78,750.

The 25 permanent secretaries in Whitehall receive £3,500 rises, taking them to £68,500 from October.

Two factors are understood to lie behind the Cabinet's decision to stage the award: the fact that people earning high salaries have been the main beneficiaries of the Chancellor's tax-cutting Budget and concern about setting too high a going rate for the rest of the Civil Service, whose salary levels are the subject of far-reaching revision.

The £5.5 million cost of the package will be met from existing Whitehall spending plans. The range of the increases varies from 5.2 per cent to 5.5 per cent for senior Civil Servants and military officers, and from 5.3 per cent to 11.9 per cent for judges.

The recommendations from the Review Body on Top Salaries are the result of a detailed review of the salary scales covering three groups: 1,140 members of the judiciary, 630 senior Civil Servants and 200 senior officers in the Armed Forces. It was the first review since the 1985 report recommending increases of up to 46 per cent for a handful of people, which led to a revolt by 100 Conservative MPs when implemented.

The report concludes that there is not a case for matching public sector pay among the groups covered with that in the private sector. It notes that salary levels among se-

nior company managers rose by about 10 per cent in the year to last October, but points out that private sector executives have to contend with greater accountability, a greater element of performance-related remuneration and reduced job security than their public sector counterparts.

It says: "In the Civil Service, the number of senior posts has been substantially reduced, but job security in the public sector as a whole remains better than in the private sector."

"These factors suggest that there is not a case for matching the increases in the private sector. Indeed, it has been put to us by the Government that a general increase broadly in line with the rate of inflation would be sufficient."

However, the report goes on to say that so small an increase would ignore other factors to which the Review Body attaches great importance: difficulties in recruiting Circuit

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent



Increases of £4,250: Lord Lane (left), Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse and Sir Robin Butler.

## SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS

Recommended salaries as at April 1, 1988, + numbers in that post as at December 31, 1987

| Post                                      | Current | April 1 | No  |
|---|---------|---------|-----|
| Head of Civil Service (Cabinet Secretary) | 81,000  | 85,250  | 1   |
| Permanent Secretary of the Treasury       | 75,750  | 79,750  | 1   |
| Permanent Secretary                       | 65,000  | 68,500  | 25  |
| Second Permanent Secretary                | 59,500  | 62,750  | 12  |
| Grade 2 (Deputy Secretary)                | 43,500  | 45,800  | 125 |
| On promotion                              | 45,500  | 48,000  |     |
| 1 year's service in grade                 | 48,000  | 50,600  |     |
| Discretionary                             | 51,000  | 53,800  |     |
| Grade 3 (Under Secretary)                 | 34,000  | 35,800  | 469 |
| On promotion                              | 35,500  | 37,400  |     |
| 1 year's service in grade                 | 37,000  | 39,000  |     |
| 2 years' service in grade                 | 39,000  | 41,100  |     |
| Discretionary                             | 41,000  | 43,200  |     |
|   | 43,000  | 45,300  |     |

\* Normally attainable maximum.



Lord Donaldson of Lynton: £4,000 rise.

and High Court judges and poor morale and retention difficulties among the most able first-stream Civil Service staff with similar problems, though to a lesser degree, apparent among the military.

The level of the increases and the phasing decision were attacked by the Association of First Division Civil Servants for failing to take account of rapid movements in comparable jobs in the private sector.

Ms Sue Corby, assistant general secretary, said: "Once again, senior Civil Servants are at the bottom of the pile. The review body recommended half the size of the market rate and the Government has been petty enough to insist on staging. It's peanuts really."

Ms Corby added that top Civil Servants were being constantly exhorted to follow the example set in the private sector but that advice did not extend to pay.

The review body, chaired by Lord Plowden, points out that as a result of a previous recommendation, performance-related pay was introduced last October for senior Civil Servants. It says that that is the way ahead. It intends to return to the issue next year and explore the possibility of introducing much greater flexibility to pay scales.

"Our belief is that greater use of performance pay and less reliance within the salary structure on overall annual adjustments is probably the right way ahead", the report says.

The review body increases from seven to eight the number of staging posts on the salary scale for the judiciary. Group seven, covering people such as chairmen of industrial tribunals and special commissioners of income tax, get an extra 6 per cent, so narrowing the differential between them and people such as circuit judges.

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## JUDICIAL SALARIES

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| £85,250 (£81,000) | Lord Chief Justice  |
| £78,750 (£74,750) | Lords of Appeal   |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | Lord President of the Court of Session                          |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | Lord Chief Justice  |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | Lord Justices of Appeal   |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | Inner House Judges of the Court of Session                      |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | Lords Justices of Appeal  |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | President of the Family Division                                |
| £75,750 (£71,750) | Vice-Chancellor   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | High Court Judges   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Outer House Judges of the Court of Session                      |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | London Official Referees  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Sherriffs Principal   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Vice-Chancellor (County Palatine of Lancaster)                  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Senior Circuit Judges   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Recorder of Liverpool   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Recorder of Manchester  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Recorder of Belfast   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chief Social Security   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Presidents, Industrial Tribunals                                |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Judge Advocate General  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | President, Social Security and Medical Appeal Tribunals         |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chairman, Criminal Injuries Compensation Board                  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | President, Lands Tribunals                                      |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Circuit Judges  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Sherriffs   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | County Court Judges   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Social Security Commissioners                                   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chairman, Scottish Land Court                                   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Registrar of Criminal Appeals                                   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Registrar of Civil Appeals                                      |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chief Metropolitan Magistrate                                   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Senior and Chief Masters and Registrars                         |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Master, Court of Protection                                     |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chairman, Foreign Compensation Commission                       |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Regional Chairmen, Industrial Tribunals                         |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Judge Advocate of the Fleet                                     |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Vice-Judge Advocate General                                     |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | President, VAT Tribunals  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | President, Immigration Appeal Tribunal                          |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Presiding Special Commissioner of Income Tax                    |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | President, Social Security and Medical Appeal Tribunals         |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Regional Chairmen, Social Security and Medical Appeal Tribunals |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Members, Lands Tribunals  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chairman, Industrial Tribunals                                  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Metropolitan Magistrates  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Provincial Stipendiary Magistrates                              |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Resident Magistrates  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Masters and Registrars of the Supreme Court                     |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Master of the Supreme Court                                     |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | County Court Registrars   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | District Registrars of the High Court                           |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Circuit Registrars  |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | President, Pensions Appeal Tribunal                             |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Vice President, Immigration Appeal Tribunal                     |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chief Immigration Adjudicator                                   |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Vice-President (Scotland) and Chairman, VAT Tribunals           |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Chairman, Social Security and Medical Appeal Tribunals          |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Special Commissioners of Income Tax                             |
| £68,500 (£65,000) | Immigration Adjudicators  |

1. England, Wales and Scotland and Northern Ireland

2. England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

3. England and Wales and Scotland

4. Northern Ireland

## Servicemen encouraged to stay

By Michael Evans  
Defence Correspondent

Britain's 317,000 servicemen are to receive pay rises ranging from 3.5 per cent to 7.3 per cent, taking the salary of the most junior Army private to £5,705 a year and that of the Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, to £85,250.

The new pay scales represent an increase of 6 per cent to 7.3 per cent for officers and 3.5 per cent to 6.7 per cent for other ranks. All the men and women in the three armed forces will have their pay rises from April, except for the most senior officers, from major-general to field marshal, who will have theirs staged, on April 1 and October 1.

This year the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay, which handles the pay for all ranks up to and including brigadier has also taken into account growing concern about the premature leaving rate of experienced young RAF pilots.

Special flying allowances are to be expanded on July 1 to include a new top rate of £11.95 a day for aircrew who have been flying for more than eight years. That means there will be three flying allowance rates instead of two, to encourage pilots and navigators to stay in the RAF rather than seek more lucrative jobs in civilian life.

## SENIOR OFFICERS OF ARMED FORCES

|                                | Salaries currently in payment | Recommended April 1988 salaries |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Marshal of the Royal Air Force | 81,000                        | 85,250                          |
| Field Marshal                  | 65,000                        | 68,500                          |
| Admiral of the Fleet           | 65,000                        | 68,500                          |
| Air Chief Marshal              | 45,500                        | 48,000                          |
| General                        | 45,500                        | 48,000                          |
| Admiral                        | 45,500                        | 48,000                          |
| Air Marshal                    | 37,000                        | 39,000                          |
| Lieutenant General             | 37,000                        | 39,000                          |
| Vice-Admiral                   | 37,000                        | 39,000                          |
| Air Vice-Marshal               | 37,000                        | 39,000                          |
| Major General                  | 37,000                        | 39,000                          |
| Rear Admiral                   | 37,000                        | 39,000                          |

## ARMED FORCES

|                                 | Salary (£)<br>Apr 87 | Salary (£)<br>Apr 88 | % age<br>inc |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Brigadier                       | 34,089               | 35,555               | 7.2          |
| Colonel                         | 31,450               | 32,725               | 7.2          |
| Lt Colonel                      | 27,271               | 28,248               | 7.2          |
| Major                           | 21,362               | 22,849               | 7.0          |
| Captain                         | 15,272               | 16,141               | 7.0          |
| Lieutenant                      | 12,078               | 12,736               | 6.8          |
| 2nd Lieutenant                  | 8,250                | 8,630                | 6.0          |
| Unit Cadet Entrants (3rd Year)  | 6,925                | 7,099                | 2.5          |
| Officer Cadet                   | 5,980                | 6,336                | 6.0          |
| Warrant Officer Class 1, Band 5 | 12,710               | 13,415               | 6.8          |
| Warrant Officer Class 2, Band 5 | 12,581               | 13,242               | 6.8          |
| Staff Sergeant, Band 5          | 11,470               | 12,228               | 6.6          |
| Sergeant, Band 5                | 10,498               | 11,106               | 6.7          |
| Corporal, Band 2                | 9,238                | 9,833                | 6.4          |
| Lance Corporal, Band 2          | 8,136                | 8,625                | 6.0          |
| Private 1, Band 2               | 5,512                | 5,705                | 3.5          |
| Private IV, Band 1              |                      |                      | 8.0          |



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## WORLD ROUNDUP

## Aborigine appeal at Queen's party

Perth — The Queen, attending her first important engagement of the bicentenary tour of Australia yesterday, soon found herself embroiled in the plight of the nation's year-long celebration (Christopher Morris writes).

At a garden party in the grounds of Government House in Perth, Western Australia, Mr Kenneth Colbung, an Aboriginal, stepped from the crowd to hand a petition to *Yuga Bidjer* — the boss lady — asking the Queen to issue a proclamation granting an amnesty to all Aboriginal prisoners.

Mr Colbung was asked if the Queen had been annoyed. "Why should she take offence?" he said. "She is a very responsible lady. I had previously met the Duke of Edinburgh on another visit and he told me to keep up the fight for the Aboriginal people, and that's precisely what I am doing."

## Nato visit cancelled

Copenhagen (AFP) — Lord Carrington, the Nato Secretary-General, has cancelled a planned visit to Denmark next week amid deepening controversy over the Danish Parliament's approval of a ban on all warships carrying nuclear arms. The cancellation follows a decision by Nato and Denmark to transfer to Brussels a meeting of the Nato Nuclear Planning Group originally scheduled to be held on April 27 and 28 in the Danish town of Kolding.

The Danish Prime Minister, Mr Poul Schlüter, has voiced deep concern over the implications for Denmark's role in Nato following the anti-nuclear ban pushed through Parliament by the Opposition on April 14. The ban would bar Nato warships from Danish ports and Nato leaders said this could have serious consequences for allied strategy and for the movement of troop reinforcements in times of crisis.

## Reshuffle in Prague

Czechoslovakia's first Cabinet reshuffle for two decades yesterday brought little sign of change to a country which is only tentatively embracing *glasnost* (David Bassett writes).

The reshuffle, while reducing by a quarter the number of Cabinet posts, fell far short of the radical changes which many Czechoslovaks have been hoping for since the appointment late last year of the new leader, Mr Milos Jakes.

When Mr Jakes took over hopes were raised that the benefits of *glasnost* would swiftly descend on the country. Yesterday's reshuffle, if unprecedented in the country since the Soviet invasion of 1968, still underlines that change in Czechoslovakia will be much slower than in many other parts of the Eastern bloc.

## Cash for internees

Washington — Forty-three years after they were released from US internment camps, Japanese-Americans are to be given compensation for their detention during the Second World War (Michael Binyon writes).

By 69 to 27 votes, the Senate passed a Bill on Wednesday extending an official national apology to the survivors of the camps and authorizing \$1.3 billion (£687 million) compensation for their "great injustice". Some 125,000 Japanese-Americans were interned at the outbreak of war; the estimated 62,000 still alive will receive \$20,000 each. During the debate, the Senate rejected attempts to link compensation to reparations from Japan for the attack on Pearl Harbour.

## Child 'pushers' fear

New York — Drug merchants are arming children with high-powered handguns in the latest trend in New York's deadly "crack" trade (Charles Bremner writes).

"We are going to have a monster on our hands," said Inspector Philip Sheridan, a senior Brooklyn police officer, after three young suspected crack pushers, one aged 12, were arrested carrying semi-automatic pistols.

Police say dealers in the cheap cocaine derivative are arming "baby-dealers" both to give them status and to shoot the competition. The children, who act as couriers and street peddlars, face far less severe sentences than adults. The crack trade is being blamed by police for a big jump in the murder rate in US cities.

## KGB agent released

Berne (AFP) — A professed Soviet agent has been freed from custody and expelled because there was insufficient evidence that he spied in Switzerland, the Federal Prosecutor's Office said yesterday. The engineer, a Spanish national, admitted passing documents from a technical institute to the KGB while he was living in West Germany, but an investigation was dropped owing to a lack of evidence.

The man, who was barred from re-entering Switzerland, had lived in Zurich since 1985. He worked in the research department of a Swiss electronics company. He was detained on March 23 on a tip resulting from a sweep by West German authorities that caught 10 suspected Soviet agents the week before.

## Algeria makes hijackers 'non-persons'

From Robert Fink, Algiers

The hijackers of flight KU422 have become non-persons in Algeria. The Government-controlled press and radio, Ministers and Algerian diplomats simply do not refer to them. It is as if they never were, which is how the Algerians — and probably the rest of the Arab world — would like them to be.

In reality — which is a fragile substance in matters of this kind, especially in Algeria — the gunmen who released their last 31 hostages from the Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 at Algiers airport early on Wednesday morning have probably reached Damascus on their way to Beirut; for west Beirut is the home for at least three of them. Politically as well as physically, they have disappeared.

"Why do you ask these

questions? Have you asked these questions on the other occasions when there were hijacks?" was the response of Mr Muhammad, the editor of the largest Algerian daily *el Moudjahid*, when I asked where the hijackers had been taken. "People who ask questions like this," he said, "are trying to stop Algeria getting credit for this successful end to the hijack."

And credit — if so humble a word can be used for the effusion of self-congratulation evident in the local press here — is what the Algerians are now receiving from the rest of the Arab world. Not, in their view, without reason; once again, Algeria has been able to save human life from destruction and a brother Arab state — Kuwait — from embarrassment.

## Experts condemn Whitehall's hardline stance

By Andrew McEwen

The Government's hard line attitude towards Algeria following the deal to end the Kuwait Airways hijacking has aroused concern and disbelief among a wide range of experts, MPs and former diplomats.

A range of opinion-makers was contacted by *The Times* immediately after the deal, which apparently allowed the hijackers to go free in return for the safe release of the passengers and crew, and most were sympathetic to the dilemma the Algerian Government had faced.

When contacted again yesterday, after hints that Britain would discuss Algeria's role at three international forums and might call for an air boycott if it was proved the hijackers had escaped punishment, they were surprised by the government view.

Sir James Craig, the former British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and now director of the Middle East Association, said: "I share the feeling that it is awful that people can commit

murder and get away with it, but I don't find it easy to make up my mind about Algeria's role. I don't feel there is any black and white method of looking at this affair. Before we condemn Algeria we should have a long talk with them."

Mr Jim Lester, the Conservative MP for Bromsgrove and a member of the select foreign affairs committee, doubted that it would have been possible to obtain the safe release of the passengers and crew without letting the hijackers go. "I think it is the price that has to be paid in this instance. The only other option was a military intervention." When told that there were hints of invoking the 1978 Bonn Declaration, which could lead to an air boycott, he said: "I think it would be rather foolish to raise it to that level."

A prominent former diplomat described talk of invoking the declaration as "mostly huffing and puffing", and said it was very unlikely that the rest of the Group of Seven,

Britain's partners in the Bonn Declaration, would accept it. "The hard line is mostly bluster, although it does have a certain deterrent value," he added.

Mr George Robertson, a Labour foreign affairs spokesman, said: "It is still not clear what (Algeria's) alternatives were. This is not the time to rush to judgement. We agree that these people are murderers and criminals, but before we convict Algeria let us see the evidence."

Sir Anthony Parsons, the former Ambassador to Iran, said that although the deal was imperfect, the fact that the 17 prisoners held in Kuwaiti jails had not been released, and that all but two passengers had survived, made it an 80 per cent success.

But he doubted the effectiveness of international political attempts to deter hijacking and said that a more technical approach was needed. He advocated an agreement among airlines to impose boycotts on airports where security was found to be lax. Mr

William Pappman, the director of the Centre for Policy Studies at Exeter University, who lectures on political violence, said: "I do not honestly see what else (Algeria) could have done. There was no way out of that situation, unless you were going to accept the death of all the passengers."

Mr Pappman added that if they have got away with only having to give safe conduct, then they have done well.

Sir James Craig said that feelings of anger immediately after the hijacking might give way to a more considered view. He represented the Government during the hijacking of a British Airways VC10, in November 1974, which ended in a similar way. After days of negotiations at Tunis airport and the death of one passenger, the hijackers released their remaining hostages and the Tunisians made ambiguous statements about their future. Sir James said it was not until months later that it became clear they had escaped punishment, and by then the world had lost interest.

## Iraqi troops savour Fao victory

From Paul Valley  
Fao, Iraq

Soldiers of Iraq's Seventh Corps were yesterday in celebratory mood as they explored the Iranian defences along the Fao peninsula, a strategically vital salient this week in their most important land victory for more than five years.

At the tip of the peninsula, which commands the point where the Shatt al Arab strait meets the Arabian Gulf and controls access to Iraq's main deepwater port at Basra, troops gleefully turned the pillbox's high-powered binoculars on to the Iranian mainland, to which a handful of the Ayatollah Khomeini's Revolutionary Guards had retreated.

The rest of the force of between 20,000 and 30,000 Iranian troops which had held Fao for the past two years had been killed or captured, according to a spokesman for the Iraqi High Command at the scene.

Elsewhere Iraqi soldiers were shooting up portraits of the Ayatollah and ripping to shreds the Iranian banners which festooned the area's military posts and offices. Others were rummaging through well-stocked munition dumps whose

contents ranged from millions of rounds of small-arms ammunition through rocket propelled grenades to 150 mm shells.

But 20 concrete silos which observers believed once housed Iran's Chinese-made Silkworm missiles were empty, giving credence to reports by diplomats that the Iraqi offensive came because they knew their enemy had pulled out a large proportion of its troops to reinforce the northern end of the 720-mile battlefield, where Iran has recently been on the offensive. These reports claim that the Iraqi force, said to number 35,000 troops, moved to liberate Fao after US satellite intelligence revealed that Iranian defences were much depleted.

The scale of the damage left little doubt that a substantial battle had taken place. Dozens of American M60 tanks, supplied to Iran before the revolution, littered the crumbling mudflats of the marshy strip of land. The city of Fao was reduced to a few piles of rubble by the artillery bombardment which preceded the Iraqi attack. The storage tanks of its long-defunct oil refinery were collapsed.

How much of this damage was

already inflicted during the past two years of sporadic bombardment was hard to discern. Though the sweet, sickly odour of rotting flesh hung still in the hot, dusty air, most of the bodies had been buried. Reporters saw only about 200 Iranian prisoners being taken north in army trucks, though Iraqi officials said there were many hundreds more.

But if the scale of the battle was unclear, there was no doubt as to the psychological value of the victory.

After the initial Iraqi advances into Iran when it first invaded its neighbour, in September 1980, after the fall of the Shah, all of the land battles have gone in favour of the Iranian regular army and the "human waves" of the Ayatollah's Revolutionary Guards, committed to martyrdom in battle.

Iraq's initiatives in the seven-year war have been confined to air attacks on the Iranian oil industry and those foreign tankers buying from it. Its superior air and missile capability have brought fear to Iranian cities, which have been regularly blitzed. Iraqis now feel that the success of their surprise offensive to retake Fao is a turning point in their fortunes on land. Yesterday

they were proudly displaying the liberated area to the international press and to military attachés from foreign embassies in Baghdad.

There was a relaxed, even festive, air along the 12 miles of the peninsula which until last week was under the control of Islamic fundamentalists calling themselves the Supreme Islamic Council of Iraq. Its headquarters, in a heavily protected bunker, was now a billet for Iraqi officers. All around, Iraqi tanks were now well dug into the new defensive positions, but their guns were muzzled against the insistent dust, and washing hung on lines between the armoured vehicles.

Although shells exploded occasionally in the vicinity, the firing from Iran across the canal was desultory and the Iraqi artillery response just as perfunctory. Soldiers ran for cover only when an explosion seemed uncomfortably close. Then they emerged with sheepish grins to continue their explorations.

"Look, chemical weapons!" one Iraqi NCO cried triumphantly, waving a tiny, innocuous-looking phial, as if in justification of the recent use of gas against Iranian troops and

Kurdish civilians. It was largely a pathetic scene.

Inside one building was a heap of science textbooks in Farsi — an indication of the presence of revolutionary students rather than regular soldiers among the Iranian defence.

On the floor lay a pass, permitting some Iranian soldier to spend the weekend off base. He would not be needing it now.

● LONDON: The Royal Navy yesterday resumed its protection of British-flagged ships in the Gulf, two days after suspending it amid fighting between Iranian and US naval forces (Andrew McEwen writes).

But the continuing higher level of risk was underlined by the discovery of another mine by a Dutch-Belgian minelayer.

The Armilla Patrol stopped offering protection to ships on Tuesday to discourage them from attempting to pass through the Strait of Hormuz. Seven oil tankers and two container ships were stranded inside the Gulf.

HMS Gloucester, a destroyer, restarted operations by accompanying one vessel out of the Gulf and was scheduled to accompany four ships on the return later.

## Demotion of Shultz looks for progress in Moscow

## Kremlin's No 2 denied

By Mary Dejevsky

A report that the second in command in the Soviet leadership, Mr Yegor Ligachov, had lost significant parts of his leadership portfolio was officially denied yesterday.

A Soviet foreign ministry spokesman said there had been no redistribution of responsibilities within the leadership. Mr Ligachov was simply on holiday.

The spokesman was responding to rumours that Mr Ligachov, who is widely believed to be at odds with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, over the pace of the reform programme, had been demoted at a party meeting on April 16. Rumours of a Gorbachev-Ligachov clash began after the publication of a long article in the Moscow newspaper *Sovetskaya Rossiya* six weeks ago, which represented the ideological and political objections to Mr Gorbachev's programme of *perestroika*.

Purporting to be a letter from a Leningrad lecturer, the article defended Stalin, called into question the socialist credentials of *perestroika* and complained that the proposed reforms would dilute the leading role of the working class and the Communist Party.

There was speculation in Moscow that Mr Ligachov, whose enthusiasm for *perestroika* has been at best lukewarm, was behind the article, which contained near-quotations from some of his speeches.

Three weeks after its appearance, the article was condemned as an example of "old-style" thinking by *Pravda*, and *Sovetskaya Rossiya* printed an apology for what it called its "misjudgement" in publishing it. Many

leading intellectuals have since expressed their unqualified support for *perestroika* in letters to the press.

On Wednesday, *Literaturnaya Gazeta* printed a long article by Mr Fyodor Burlatsky, a political commentator, setting out the ideological justification for *perestroika* and condemning Stalinist state socialism as an aberration. Mr Burlatsky also called for the economy to be more market-oriented.

Despite the official denial of his demotion, Mr Ligachov — whose responsibilities include ideological matters and the media — may still be in trouble. According to two Moscow editors, he has now ceased to oversee their work. They must now defer to Mr Aleksandr Yakovlev, another member of the Secretariat and an ideology specialist, who is considered a close ideological ally of Mr Gorbachev.

Last year, during a visit to Paris, Mr Ligachov was at pains to deny that there was any split between himself and Mr Gorbachev. To the surprise of many, however, he disclosed that it was he, rather than the General Secretary, who chaired regular meetings of the Secretariat.

While Mr Ligachov's eclipse would strengthen Mr Gorbachev's position in the run-up to the party conference in June, it may not make progress towards reform much swifter. The platform represented by Mr Ligachov appeals to a broad constituency: to ideological purists, to party officials who stand to lose privileges and to workers who fear redundancy.

All these groups have the power to retard the proposed reform programmes.



Mr Shultz admiring the interior of a Foreign Ministry mansion in Moscow yesterday as Mr Shevardnadze looks on.

## Talks crucial to next arms pact

From Our Correspondent, Moscow

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Edmund Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, met here yesterday to open talks which will be crucial to the chances of a strategic arms treaty being signed at next month's Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in Moscow.

But instead of devoting the first session of their regular talks to outstanding problems which are holding up Geneva talks on halving US and Soviet long-range missiles, the two ministers concentrated most of the day on human rights and regional conflicts, according to the US State Department spokesman, Mr Charles Redman.

In central Moscow, meanwhile, Soviet security forces broke up a demonstration by about 200 reformists who have been denied exit visas to

Israel. They staged their protest as Mr Shultz was meeting a small group of reformists yesterday evening at the residence of the US Consul General, Mr Max Robinson.

When Mr Redman told a news conference that the US and Soviet ministers had issued fresh instructions to their arms negotiators, but had not themselves discussed the strategic arms treaty, the Soviet arms official, Mr Viktor Karpov, reacted with irritation.

In an interview with *Tass* Mr Karpov said it was "difficult to speak of any progress on issues of nuclear missile disarmament by the results of the first half of yesterday's talks". The negotiations had focused on human rights, he said.

Mr Karpov added that human rights were "I believe, not

the most important" part of the agenda.

"We are waiting with impatience for a time when it becomes clear what political baggage... George Shultz has brought to Moscow."

Mr Karpov heads the foreign ministry's disarmament department.

Both Washington and Moscow have committed themselves to aiming for the strategic arms treaty to be signed by Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachev at their summit, which begins on May 29.

But Mr Shevardnadze also said yesterday that progress depended on proposals that Mr Shultz was bringing with him.

Mr Redman said that the US delegation was "making every effort" to conclude a strategic arms treaty in time for the summit. "We have

come here to solve problems, to do some hard work on difficulties which exist and to produce results," he said.

The main problems still to be resolved on the treaty concern air-launched cruise missiles, land-based mobile missiles, and sea-launched cruise missiles, according to Mr Redman.

Dr David Owen, who arrived here on Monday for a seminar with five arms experts hosted by *Pravda*, said yesterday that he understood after talks with Soviet officials that Moscow was in no hurry for a strategic arms treaty to be concluded by the summit.

The Soviet foreign ministry spokesman, Mr Vadim Perfilov, told reporters at the brief meeting with Mr Redman that "our future work... will depend a great deal on the outcome of this meeting."

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# Botha hints blacks could have role in a reformed Cabinet

From Michael Hornsby, Cape Town

President Botha yesterday sketched out plans for a move towards a form of race federation in South Africa and said that more people from outside Parliament, including by implication some black Africans, should be appointed to the national Cabinet.

Speaking in Parliament here during the annual debate on his department's budget, Mr Botha also proposed the restoration of the post of Prime Minister, abolished when the present Constitution was introduced in 1984.

In a further tentative lifting of the veil over the Government's future plans, Mr Botha disclosed that the Government was working on draft legislation providing for new elected regional assemblies for those blacks living outside the existing tribal homelands.

The President said that these bodies would "offer these communities authority over their own affairs that affect them", and "could also serve as a basis for their participation in a formal forum for deliberation". He added that the legislation was being drawn up in consultation with black leaders.

Turning to the troubled relations between church and state, Mr Botha asserted that the Government was not seeking confrontation, and that he did "not expect church leaders to agree with me in everything".

But he warned church members that they must not allow themselves to be "taken in tow by a few radical clergy and certain academics who are attempting to force Liberation Theology on the churches

from above". He mentioned no names but clearly had Archbishop Desmond Tutu, among others, in mind.

In a briefing on the President's speech, a senior government source encouraged journalists to speculate that blacks would be included in the Cabinet if, in Mr Botha's words, the President were given "greater leeway to appoint persons from outside Parliament".

At present, the Cabinet is all white, except for one Indian Minister without Portfolio, A. Coloured politician, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, previously also had a Cabinet seat, but was dismissed last year.

Observers here pointed out that Mr Botha's remarks might also presage the appointment of more technocrats and military men to the Cabinet, continuing the shift of power away from the National Party and Parliament to the State President's Office and what some commentators here have dubbed "multi-racial dictatorship".

Under the 1984 Constitution, a tricameral Parliament for whites, Coloureds and Indians, but excluding the 73 per cent of the population classified as black, was set up, and the roles of President and Prime Minister were combined in a single executive presidency.

Mr Botha said yesterday that he now believed the President should concern himself with such matters as "population relations, macro-economic policy and the determination of financial priorities, security and foreign

affairs", leaving the day-to-day administration to the Cabinet "under the chairmanship of a Prime Minister appointed by the State President".

Government sources said that elected regional assemblies might be set up for other race groups as well as blacks.

Mr Botha said that the Government was still pursuing its plan for a "national council" for negotiations with blacks but was prepared to consider a suggestion by a recently deceased black homeland leader that it should be renamed the "Great Indaba" (the Zulu word for a tribal conference) and be given a less formal character.

JOHANNESBURG: A South African freed from police custody in the intensive care unit of a hospital during a guerrilla raid two years ago, has been convicted of murder, attempted murder and 14 counts of terrorism (Reuters and AFP report).

A Supreme Court in the Natal provincial capital of Pietermaritzburg on Wednesday also found Gordon Webster, aged 24, an African National Congress member, guilty of planning to seize hostages to use in bargaining for other prisoners.

He was shot and captured by police in April 1986, but was freed from the hospital in May by friends. One hospital visitor was killed and four people injured. He was recaptured last September.

Meanwhile, guerrillas killed two black policemen in a gun battle yesterday near the Alice, in the homeland of Ciskei, police said.

## Israelis relive march to independence



Israeli settlers, bearing flags, marching near the West Bank town of Gush Etzion yesterday to mark Israel's 40th birthday.

## US seals ties with 'lasting' vows

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel yesterday celebrated its 40th independence day by signing a memorandum of understanding with the United States which underlines how much it relies on US aid and support to maintain its independence.

Signed simultaneously in Washington by President Reagan and in Jerusalem by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, the document comes very close to doing so.

Apart from agreeing to continue the "unique dialogue" between the two countries through periodic meetings at senior ministerial levels, the memorandum also institutionalizes annual meetings between defence chiefs and economic officials.

At the talks, joint military exercises will be planned and there will be a review of "Israel's requests for security assistance in the light of

current threat assessments and US budgetary capabilities." The two sides will also agree on proposed levels of security and economic assistance.

With any chance of success for Mr George Shultz's Middle East peace plan receding daily, the document demonstrates graphically that there is no question of the US using sanctions to pressure Israel into negotiations that Mr Shamir does not want.

While Mr Shamir was busy signing the document, the country took the day off work to celebrate independence in the traditional manner, picnicking in the parks and touring military bases packed with American equipment.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, whose popularity has suffered because of his

support for the US Secretary of State's plan, paid a visit to troops in Bethlehem, where he praised them and the work they were doing. With the polls showing that the electorate is increasingly in favour of a tough, hard line policy against the Palestinian uprising, Mr Peres appears to be trying to show that he is no more ready to give in to violence than is the Prime Minister.

Although not as vital as the American gift, the Soviet Union apparently gave its own 40th birthday present by granting exit visas to 50 Jews who, led by Mr Lev Foreman, a refugee for 14 years, arrived in Israel yesterday.

France also marked the day with a signing of an agreement at the Louvre in Paris for cultural exchanges with Israel.

## 38 held in Korean election violence

Seoul (AFP) — South Korean police yesterday detained 38 people in connection with election violence, including 31 members of the ruling party accused of beating up two opposition supporters.

The 31 campaign workers from the Democratic Justice Party had been held captive by opposition supporters for seven hours after the incident. Dispute ends: Workers at the Daewoo shipyard ended a 32-day dispute, that had led to a strike then a lock-out, after they were offered a 20 per cent pay increase.

## Sudan battle

Khartoum (AFP) — Sudanese troops killed 500 rebels in a fierce six-hour battle around Nasir, in the Upper Nile province. More than 40 government troops were killed.

## 6,000 freed

Taipei (AFP) — Taiwan will free more than 6,000 prisoners today under a clemency order to mark the 100th day after the death of President Chiang.

## Blast kills 22

Bangkok (AP) — Pacifist Buddhist monks accidentally set off a phosphorus bomb in a passenger bus, killing at least 22 people and seriously injuring 20 others.

## Boats seized

Macao (Reuters) — Chinese customs officers have seized two fishing boats and detained 16 Hong Kong sailors suspected of smuggling tobacco. Macao officials said.

## Suicide pact

Hong Kong (Reuters) — Two lovers, whose parents told them they could not marry, killed themselves by detonating a bag of explosives at a bus station in Shaoguan.

## Bomb arrests

Paris (AP) — Police have detained 22 people in connection with a bombing at the office of a court bailiff in Paris last weekend in which two people were injured.

## Chinese soap

Peking (AFP) — Chinese television is to make a 40-part series based on *The Golden Lotus*, the country's best-known erotic novel, which was written in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644).

## Hemmed in

Nairobi (AFP) — About 2,700 employees of a sack manufacturing company have been dismissed after they defied an order to resume work following a dispute over advance salaries.

## Death squads and drug barons fuel Colombia violence

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

Returning to Bogotá recently after six months' exile in Europe, Señor Jorge Child, an economist and journalist, emphasized that his homecoming did not mean he saw any improvement in the climate of violence from which he had fled.

Indeed, he thought the situation far worse and predicted that the horizon would get blacker still: "We are on the way to the 'Lebanonization' of Colombia."

In effect, Amnesty International this week said that Colombia was already there. In a report on what is now unquestionably Latin America's most violent country, yet paradoxically still a democracy,

Amnesty noted that 14,000 Colombians were murdered in 1986, "the highest proportion in the world for a country not at war". Colombians have a 1-in-2,000 chance of being murdered, according to Amnesty, and homicide is now the principal cause of death for males aged between 15 and 44.

The murder rate assuredly rose in 1987 and seems set to go through the roof this year. Violence has been fuelled over the last decade by the country's emergence as the centre of the continental cocaine business. But Amnesty classified more than 1,000 murders last year as political assassinations committed by paramilitary death squads which have decimated the ranks of the fledgling socialist movement.

the Unión Patriótica. Yet in a year which has seen the assassination of the nation's Attorney General by the drugs mafia, a series of massacres in which 130 peasants have been slaughtered by death squads, savage guerrilla action and no respite from the endemic street crime, Amnesty's report was accepted with the fatalism that now characterizes Colombian attitudes to violence. In fact, it mainly confirmed what their newspapers have long chronicled. Amnesty is respected here and there were few attacks on its partiality.

An aide to President Barco ventured that the report was exaggerated, and the Defence Minister, General Rafael Samudio, bristled at Amnesty's charge that the death

squads were manned by serving military personnel "under high military command". Few Colombians doubt that members of the armed forces are indeed involved, but wonder how high is high.

Although some 550 socialist party members have been murdered since the movement was founded three years ago, the Unión Patriótica has always stopped short of accusing General Samudio of orchestrating the killings.

Señor Child says Colombia cannot be compared with Chile. "Someone persecuted by Pinochet (Chile's President) can neither write in newspapers nor express his political opinion anywhere. In contrast... we can freely write in the press, we have bodyguards paid by

the Government, and so, telling the story abroad, they ask us: 'If it's not the Government who are persecuting you, who is persecuting you?' Then one tries to explain that there are paramilitary groups which are not the Government but may have something to do with the armed forces, and then these people understand even less."

Colombia has long been a violent country. The assassination of a popular Liberal leader in 1948 triggered a bloody sectarian conflict known as "La Violencia", in which an estimated 300,000 died.

The violence now is also being stoked by Colombia's drug barons. Apart from the countless murders they have commissioned of government ministers, judges, police offi-

cers, lawyers and journalists, there is evidence that they are, also behind the death squads responsible for recent massacres of banana industry workers in the Caribbean region of Urubá.

Yet it is not only the violence that is alarming but the stoicism with which it is accepted. An anthropologist, Señor Carlos Alberto Uribe, observes: "It's incredible that now nobody's talking about the death of Carlos Mauro Hoyos (the murdered Attorney General). Why do we so quickly forget things?" The increasingly remote President Barco, aged 65, is under fire for failing to assert leadership in response to the violence, and his critics wonder whether he too is not a victim of this fatalism.

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## Candidates jostling for France's soft centre

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

The leader of the French Socialist Party, M. Lionel Jospin, has a nice turn of phrase and a sharp, if one-eyed, understanding of politics in his country.

When M. François Mitterrand became President in 1981, after a campaign fought almost exclusively across the traditional left-right divide, he observed that the centre in France was like the Bermuda Triangle: "Whoever approaches it disappears".

Seven years on and the same M. Jospin happily waved goodbye to M. Mitterrand as the President and candidate departed on the journey that would take his campaign, stripped of all things Socialist, straight into the centre. What is more, touching down in this notorious black hole of politics are his main rivals on the right, M. Jacques Chirac and M. Raymond Barre.

This unabashed pursuit of the middle ground reflects a fundamental change in the voting public between the two presidential elections. *Le changement* of 1981, the prospect—delightful to some, appalling to others—of a huge upheaval of society, has been lost without trace. In its place is *la continuité*, duller but

speeches on the campaign trail became increasingly indistinguishable as they elbowed each other for space in the middle ground. No wonder a sizeable chunk of the electorate remains uncertain which of them to back.

But if the next president will be chosen by a significantly less ideological electorate, the

elections if he fails to find the right partner "within 24 hours". The risk is that today's voters, with their taste for balance, will return another conservative majority that M. Chirac would ensure made another bout of *cohabitation* infinitely more difficult to achieve. Not much centrism there.

As some observers see it, a M. Chirac as president could be obliged to practise a form of *cohabitation* with the forces of the right—who had backed M. Barre, in the *Le Figaro* magazine's apt phrase "like the Sioux or the Zulus, French conservatives are not one tribe but many", and their scheming undoubtedly helped hand the Socialists victory in 1981.

Just so, say the Prime Minister's advisers: all the more reason for forming a single conservative party immediately after the election.

It is not easy to know exactly where to fit M. Jean-Marie Le Pen into the presidential equation. No body could accuse the National Front leader of seeking the middle ground, or of avoiding the more contentious issues. His dream of squeezing the lackadaisical M. Barre into last place among the "big four"

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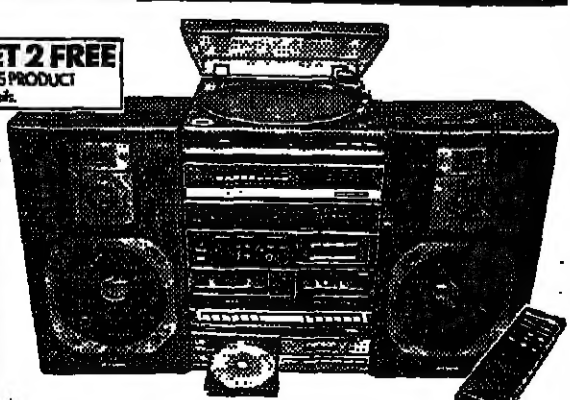
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مكزاتن الأصيل



## Reforms may bring Italian Communists in from the cold

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Italian Parliament, set to approve the new Government of Signor Ciriaco De Mita, yesterday showed signs of an intriguing new alignment: the Communist Party, out in the cold for a decade, will back the Christian Democratic Government in its attempts to overhaul the political system.

The new Communist Party, according to its chairman Signor Alessandro Natta, is willing to support the five-party governing coalition in a radical reform of the parliamentary system.

Many of the proposed reforms—for example, setting a 5 per cent hurdle to prevent the many fringe parties from entering Parliament—are impractical at the moment because small parties within the Government (Liberals, Social Democrats, Republicans) would suffer.

They would threaten to break ranks if big changes were introduced in the proportional representation voting system.

But with the support of the two largest coalition parties, the Christian Democrats (with 34 per cent of the vote) and the Socialists (with 14 per cent), and the acquiescence of the Communist opposition (with 29 per cent), there would be no more obstacles. The small parties are naturally nervous.

The Socialist Party leader, Signor Bettino Craxi, will be vigilant: he does not want the Communists to displace him as the main partner of the Christian Democrats.

The Communists gave indirect support to the Christian Democratic-led Government in 1976—in return for which they were given the chair-

ship of seven parliamentary committees and the position of parliamentary Speaker—and collaborated in forming another administration in 1978. But the kidnapping and murder of their main Christian Democratic interlocutor, Aldo Moro, dashed any hopes of gaining Cabinet positions.

This time, says Signor Natta, Communist support would be for a programme of institutional reform. Signor De Mita, in his parliamentary address this week, said that Italy was stuck in a crisis because of the shortcomings of political institutions.

His readiness to consider "constructive opposition" by the Communists reflects not only this fear of crisis, but also his determination to create a government that will last its full term until 1992, a crucial year for Europe.

In an interview with *The Times*, Signor Giorgio Napolitano, number three in the Italian Communist politburo, made plain what the Communists want. They do not want an abolition of the secret ballot—that would take away one of the Communists' key parliamentary weapons.

"Instead, we want Parliament to be revised as a structure. For example, a one-chamber parliament—though we know this idea is not accepted by the other parties—or at least a differentiation in the roles of the two chambers," he said. The number of deputies should be reduced, and changes in the strict proportional representation system should apply to at least one of the chambers.

"The idea of a five-party coalition is limited, and its life

is precarious. It is divided, has no self-confidence, cannot believe in itself—how can such a government answer the key problems? To reform, the Christian Democrats need to consider an open solution (involving the Communists)—but we don't want a situation where the ideas are predetermined and the Communist Party is supposed to say only yes or no."

Bridge-building of a different sort has quietly been taking place in Rome. The Pope, once regarded by Moscow as a fierce anti-communist crusader, has been using the occasion of the 1,000th anniversary of Christianity in Russia to make surprisingly conciliatory noises towards the Kremlin. His strategy emerges from a jigsaw of public and private statements, all indicating a new willingness to build bridges with Moscow.

The latest signal came this week in a message to Ukrainian Catholics marking 1,000 years of Christianity there. The Ukrainian Church, which for the most part has functioned underground, has been at odds with the Russian Orthodox hierarchy who are also celebrating their 1,000-year anniversary. But the Pope carefully balances his words and says nothing that could be taken amiss by the Orthodox Church.

In a recent *ad limina* meeting (a regular briefing visit) with Lithuanian bishops, the Pope went further, appearing to take Moscow's *perestroika* seriously. "A wind of change appears to be blowing in your society and awakens living expectations in millions."

## Filipino farmers press for break-up of big estates



Filipino peasants, some wearing masks, riding on a cart pulled by a water buffalo yesterday during a protest in Manila in support of demands for sweeping agricultural reforms. About 10,000 peasant farmers took part in the demonstration, saying that they had lost faith in President Aquino's promise of land

reform (Humphrey Hawkey writes). Many of the demonstrators had started the march from outlying provinces, collecting thousands of signatures from supporters. Police backed up by anti-riot units were deployed throughout Manila. No serious trouble was reported. The demonstration was staged to coincide

with the start of a joint congressional committee which hopes to complete land reform legislation within the next two months. The aim is to carve up the huge coconut, sugar and other estates and sell them in small blocks to millions of peasants. But the draft legislation has been diluted with the amendments pushed through by the

landowning lobby in the Philippines, and it is doubtful that the new laws will offer the sort of reform envisaged when President Marcos was overthrown. The peasants, a key force in the "people power" revolt against the former president, now say they have no hope of genuine land reform from the Government of Mrs Aquino.

## Soviet Army under fire for bullying recruits

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Just as the Soviet Army is preparing to leave Afghanistan, a national scandal has erupted in the official media over ritualized bullying and violent initiation techniques regularly employed against young conscripts beginning their two-year compulsory national service.

According to the disclosures in *Nedelya*, the popular government weekly, older national servicemen and NCOs, going under the facetious nickname of "grandads", inflict widespread violence and hu-

miliation on new recruits but, because of official silence, are infrequently punished.

A Soviet source said that the "grandads" at the centre of the scandal are often themselves only in their late teens or early twenties. Frequently, because of the way that the practice has been allowed to go unchecked, they are merely repeating the violence inflicted on them earlier in their service careers.

Western observers said there was a similarity between the malpractice exposed inside the Soviet Army and

recent cases of bullying within the British forces. But the evidence which has come to light indicates that ritualized violence in the Soviet ranks is on a more serious scale.

Colonel Dmitri Shkulanov, a professor at Moscow's Frunze military academy, wrote: "It is hard to learn about the instances of abnormal, disgraceful relationships among servicemen in our Army. For me, who started his military career at the age of 11 and is now an armed services veteran, it is

even more painful to learn about such things.

"How could it happen that such behaviour became possible? The problem should be studied seriously in order to root out such phenomena... Our families are now raising 'mother's darlings', men who become limp when encountering difficulties rather than combating them."

The colonel's angry letter and others, in a huge posting on the subject received by the weekly, were written in response to an article by a young

Soviet journalist so horrified at the practices he discovered during his national service that he wrote an exposé. Previously the taboo topic was only covered in dissident journals, which had also received many letters of complaint.

Western military experts, who had been aware from intelligence reports of the violent practices, believe that such behaviour, combined with dismally poor pay, shortages of basics and the rigours of Afghanistan, has been responsible for low morale.

## Feud splits opposition parties in Bangladesh

From Ahmed Fazl, Dhaka

Barely three months after uniting to lead violent street protests in Dhaka which threatened to bring down the Government of President Ershad, the two women who lead the main Bangladeshi opposition parties have drifted apart.

The feud between the two, Sheikh Hasina Wazed, head of the Awami League, and Begum Khaleda Zia, chairwoman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, has been exacerbated by their driving ambition and mutual distrust. This has put the liaison committee appointed to help unite the opposition under severe strain.

The split surfaced last week as Sheikh Hasina, President Ershad's most serious rival, accused Begum Zia of having clandestine links with the Army.

"The Awami League will go alone instead of keeping ties with those who run with the hare and hunt with the hounds," Sheikh Hasina said at a public meeting in an obvious reference to her erstwhile ally, Begum Zia.

The latter is the widow of an army general who ruled the country for almost six years before being killed in an abortive coup.

Sheikh Hasina, aged 41, is the daughter and political heir of the country's founder president, Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rahman. Her father was killed in a midnight massacre by dissident army officers on 15 August, 1975.

Sheikh Hasina blames Begum Zia's husband, General Zia-ur-Rahman, for allowing the self-confessed killers to go unpunished.

Begum Zia, on the other hand, holds Sheikh Hasina responsible for having helped to encourage the coup six years ago which dislodged her

party from power. "The feud between the two women is deep-rooted and personal and ambitions have widened the rift," a political observer said.

The main casualty of the opposition split has been the campaign to topple President Ershad. Crowds at opposition rallies have been thinning recently, and the start of Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting, has reduced the likelihood of further street

Dhaka (Reuters) — A further 100 kidnapped Bangladeshis, mostly women and children, have been rescued near the south-western border with India, police said yesterday. Last week border guards said 267 hostages, destined for sale abroad as prostitutes or for organ transplants, had been saved in the last six months.

The latest rescue, on Wednesday, happened when police stopped a crowded bus.

protests. "The opposition is in a quandary about what course to follow next, with their unity disintegrating and the Government and the Army re-establishing control," a Western diplomat said.

The confusion in the opposition ranks has been so great that the eight-party alliance led by Sheikh Hasina has been meeting for the past three days in an effort to map out a strategy for a planned general strike on Monday.

The strike will be a crucial test of the opposition's ability to patch up its quarrels and relaunch its campaign to oust the President.

Sheikh Hasina and Begum Zia have met only three times since they started their mass campaign for greater democracy last November.

However, they have united once again in calling for the new strike, which is aimed at

stalling the opening of the new parliament. The election on March 3 was boycotted by the opposition, giving the ruling Jatiyo (National) Party a huge majority.

Leading members of the Awami League now believe that it was wrong to boycott the election. They blame the decision on Begum Zia, saying she led the opposition into staying out of the poll because her party was not prepared to field candidates in all constituencies.

Political observers suggest that the rift between the two principal opposition figures is the result of pressures building up within their parties.

Sheikh Hasina returned from six years of self-imposed exile in 1981 to take charge of the Awami League by virtue of her charismatic father's memory. She is now being challenged by the party's old guard, who accuse her of being authoritarian.

"All this mud-slinging has hurt the opposition's fight for democracy clearly," said Mr Abbas Ali Khan, leader of the fundamentalist Jamaat-i-Islami Party, whose members on Wednesday openly clashed with the League's supporters in Chittagong.

But a fragmented opposition has not relieved President Ershad of all his problems. He is in trouble over his controversial plans to make Islam the Bangladesh state religion.

The Army and the fundamentalists have supported the Islamization programme, but intellectuals and the secular opposition are vehemently against it.

In addition, he has had to contend with the growing impoverishment of Bangladesh, where 85 per cent of the country's 103 million people are living at subsistence level.

## India mounts verbal attack on Zia over Sikh terror link

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A war of words against Pakistan escalated this week as Indian leaders bombarded their neighbours with a series of ministerial statements, at least one of which accused President Zia of Pakistan of lying about assistance being given to Sikh terrorists.

Mr Biju Singh, the Minister of Home Affairs, told Parliament that the accusation by President Zia that Pakistan was not aiding the terrorists was "a tissue of lies". He said that he had "incontrovertible proof" that it was doing so.

At the same time Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, talking to the commanders of India's million-strong Army, declared every suggestion of ours "to normalise relations between the two countries during the eight meetings he has had with

General Zia and three with the Pakistani Prime Minister, Mr Muhammad Jinnah.

Mr Gandhi also said that Pakistan was continuing to assist Punjab terrorism.

A third minister, Mr K. Narwar Singh, the Minister of State for External Affairs, commented in Parliament on the sustained support that Punjab terrorists were receiving in Pakistan, adding that India knew "the location of their training camps and the names of the persons training the extremists". A former Foreign Minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, also speaking in Parliament, accused Pakistan of carrying on an "undeclared war in Punjab".

Mr Biju Singh said that two Pakistani Rangers had been killed with two terrorists on Tuesday morning.

He suggested that the Rang-

ers had been providing cover for the terrorists while they slipped into India, adding that other terrorists had cut back across the line, leaving behind their Chinese-made AK 47 assault rifles, and 1,000 rounds of ammunition.

The Ministry of Home Affairs told Parliament on Wednesday that 335 weapons, including revolvers, pistols, rifles and rocket launchers, had been seized in Punjab during the first three months of the year, and Mr K.P.S. Gill, the new chief of police in Punjab, said another 42 AK 47s have been captured in the past three weeks.

A cache of 16 Soviet-made anti-tank missiles, probably originally captured by the Mujahideen in Afghanistan, were also unearthed on Wednesday at a farmhouse in Gurdaspur district.

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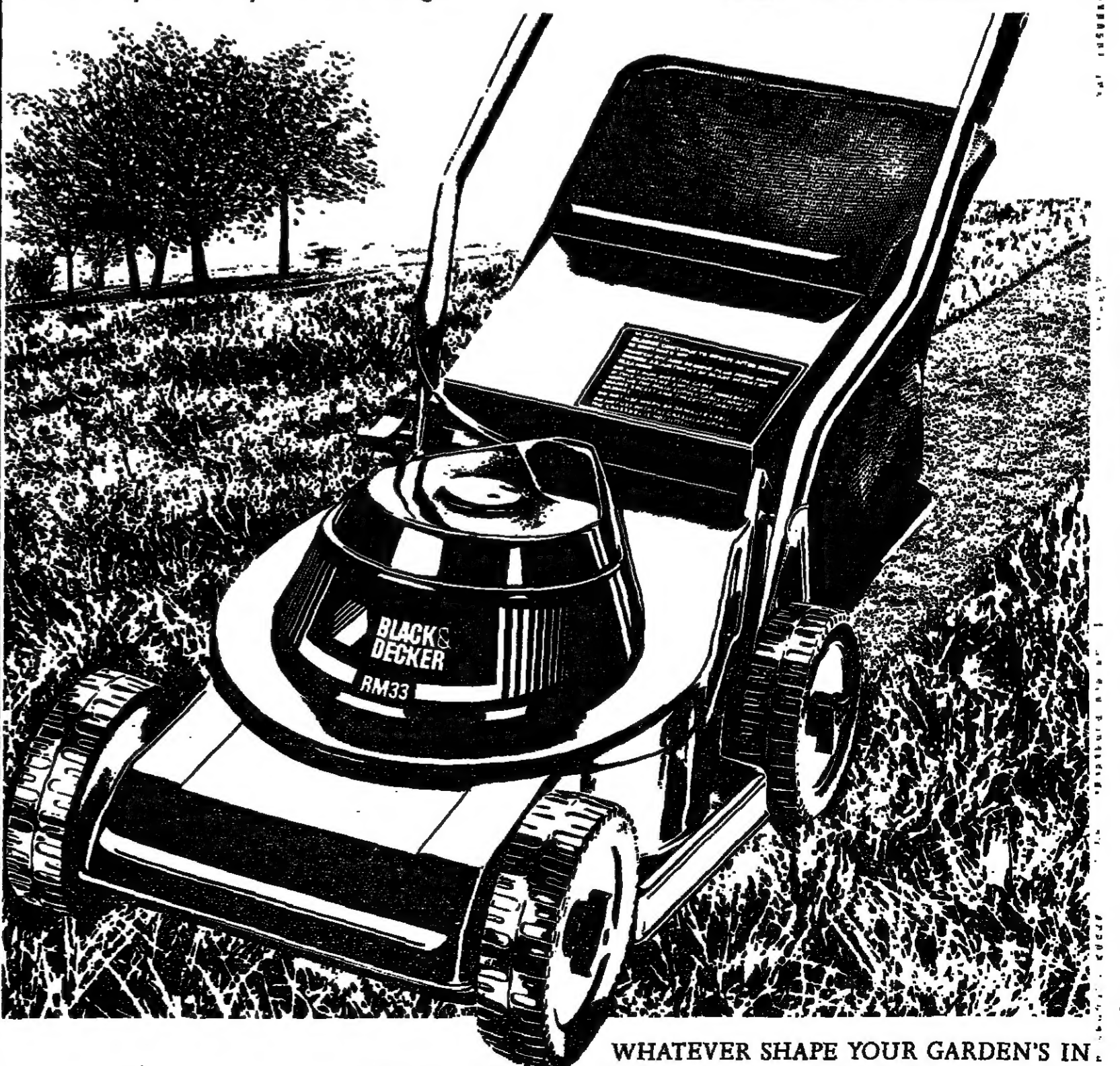
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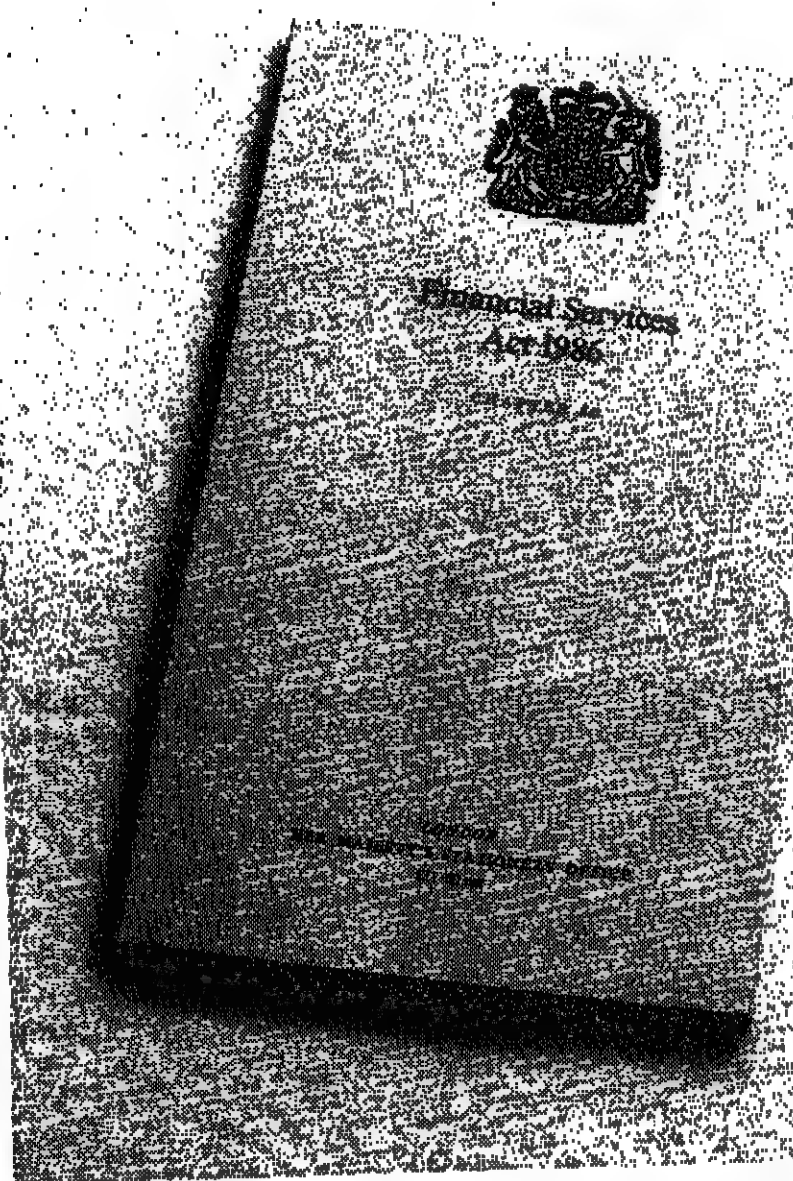
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# Backbench move to reduce effect of business rate

A Conservative backbench move to mitigate the impact of the uniform business rate on small businesses was made when MPs began the fourth day of the report stage of the Local Government Finance Bill.

Mr Robert Hicks (South East Cornwall, C) moved an amendment to abate by half increases in the uniform business rate of £1,000 a year or less. He said that the Government's proposed uniform business rate had had a very mixed reception. There were few who were not worried by the impact it could have on the level of economic activity in small businesses.

Cornwall was not a major industrial county but it was dependent on a wide economic diversity. The UBR would mean an immediate increase in rates of 10 to 12 per cent. That would be compounded by a rate revaluation, the first since 1973.

The combination would cause serious disruption, and damage individual business enterprises. "It is the overall effect that worries me."

He therefore proposed that during the transitional period the maximum increase in any rate bill should be restricted to 10 per cent in real terms, the cost of the transition should be met by the Exchequer.

The transitional period should be extended beyond 1990; the Government's intentions on transition should be announced before the legislation was implemented.

If, as expected, local authorities increased their expenditure by more than the rate of inflation over the next three years, the unified business rate would be that much higher.

## POLL TAX BILL

Many MPs were deeply conscious of the effect that the projected figures would have on business activity. That was why the suggestion had been put forward as a solution that there should be an abatement of half on the first £1,000.

This would most certainly help to reduce the incidence of rates on the smaller business unit. Other advantages of this particular scheme are that it has no additional administrative costs. There are no thresholds involved. It could be self-financing.

In view of the great emphasis ministers had placed on the contribution that the smaller business unit had made to the revival in recent years, they should acknowledge the very real fears about the problems that would result from the Bill's changes.

"Many of them are finding it economically difficult to survive and it could well be that any significant increase in the level of their rating burden could place their very economic viability in question."

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that Labour did not accept the principle of a national business tax and he could not see why so many Conservative MPs did.

How could a national business tax, not in the control of the Secretary of State for the Environment, improve local accountability?

It totally divorced local authorities from the tax and broke the relationship that the Government had rightly sought to build up between local authority decision-making, their budgets and the local business community.

That had been an important and welcome development, which this Bill destroyed.

Opposition amendments were intended to provide for regulations to enable a discount of up to 100 per cent of the tax to be available for small businesses.

Large businesses and the Government ought to be making a contribution to the scheme just as the better off in society should be funding a 100 per cent discount scheme for people on low incomes.

The Opposition had responded to discussions going on with organizations representing small businesses by tabling a new clause and amendments.

These would expand the period of phasing-in of the proposals by up to 10 years and they also drew attention to the fact that Government proposals would slow the rate of benefit in the North to the advantage of businesses in the South.

The Government had been arguing that its proposals would bring significant benefits to the North. Now its second thoughts meant these significant benefits were being eroded.

Mr Ridley had promised in committee to put forward an amendment to cover a point made by Sir Brandon Rhys Williams. Where was it? He was surprised not to see it.

Mr Ridley intervened to say that the Government "almost certainly" intended to put the amendment forward in the Lords.



Mr Tony Banks (right) with Mr Nicholas Ridley and Mrs Thatcher as they set to work tidying St James's Park

## Collecting litter with elegance

The litter problem was disgusting, so was it too much to ask each officer to obtain one prosecution against litter loots each year?

Mr Hogg said that he was sympathetic to the point made. He did not think that the criminal law could ever be the primary instrument for resolving the problem.

Mr Nicholas Westerman (Macclesfield, C) said that many people believed that the UK was the litter gutter of the world. Mr Hogg agreed that there

was far too much litter around and that it was indeed disgusting. It was for that reason that the Prime Minister had given her personal support to the Keep Britain Tidy campaign. Essentially the solution to the problem lay in persuading people of their personal and social responsibilities not to create litter.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) is the minister aware that last month litter was deliberately strewn around St James's Park, only then to be collected by a lady of pension-

able years and stuffed into a black plastic bag carried by a strange old covered in tag ash and muzzling obscenities under his breath? (laughter)

Is the minister able to cast any light on this rather bizarre incident and will he tell us whether the two litter loots concerned have been prosecuted? (laughter)

Mr Hogg's recollection is that the litter was picked up with very considerable elegance (laughter).

## Lords want secrets law reformed

The following report of the second reading debate in the Lords on the Protection of Information (No 2) Bill, introduced by Lord Bethell, appeared in later editions yesterday.

Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, said that the catch-all section 2 of the Official Secrets Act was so widely drawn as to undermine the administration of justice and the rule of law.

In his maiden speech in the Lords, he supported other peers in arguing for reform of section 2 during the debate.

Lord Donaldson said he hoped that the Bill would help to speed the Government's intentions of bringing forward an acceptable alternative.

The Bill is virtually identical to the measure introduced by Mr Richard Shepherd (Aldridge-Brownhills, C) in the Commons, which was rejected

at second reading. Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, has said that a White Paper on reforming section 2 would be published in June.

When asked by Lord Mishcon about rumours that he would not be pressing the Bill, Lord Bethell (C) said that he thought it "extremely unlikely" that time would be found to proceed to a committee stage.

Opening the debate, he said the present section 2 was a sledgehammer, a nuclear deterrent, so unwieldy and full of political fallout that it no longer commanded credibility because of the unwillingness of juries to convict.

The Bill was a step towards a more democratic form of government. It removed the catch-all section 2 and cut out the excuse sometimes used by those who wished to conceal information from the public.

The Bill was read a second time.

## Kinnock speaks for constituent Thatcher advises borrowing

An unnamed widow, aged 73, a constituent of Mr Kinnock's, who has been trying for 20 months to sell her house, was advised by the Prime Minister to raise a bank loan against that asset. Labour MPs protested vigorously and hissed when Mrs Thatcher made the point during question time.

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, a 73-year-old widow in his constituency has lost all her housing benefit because she owns a house she has been trying to sell for 20 months. Out of £41.67 a week she has to find £32.74 rent for her flat. Will the Prime Minister tell me and my constituent how she can live on less than £10 a week?

Mrs Thatcher: There a number of cases where there is a lapse of time between when a house is put on the market and they can sell it. There used to be provision to cover that gap. It was unfortunately not properly used and therefore the rules



Mr Kinnock: She does not live in the real world

DHSS. They ruled that she was entitled to the £41.67 a week.

Mrs Thatcher: The reason I said "if any difficulty" is perfectly plain. If a person has a considerable asset like a house, it should not be difficult to raise a modest loan on a valuation of that house.

Mr Kinnock: She does not live in the real world. The house cannot be sold for 20 months. Will the Prime Minister recommend which building society or source of credit there would be to enable a constituent to raise an additional mortgage at 73?

Mrs Thatcher: A loan on the security of an asset is a perfectly well understood transaction usually provided for by the banks of this country.

Later, during business questions, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, announced that there would be an Opposition debate on Wednesday entitled: "The hardship caused by the housing benefit changes".

## Review for PoW murder papers

All information at the Ministry of Defence relevant to the murder of British prisoners at Wormhoudt, northern France, in 1940, is being rigorously re-examined to see whether it could provide the basis for legal action against Herr Wilhelm Mohrke, a former Nazi officer.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) asked whether the Government's new policy on official secrets would lead to the re-opening of files on the massacre and bring to account Mr Mohrke, a former Nazi officer.

More than 30 British Servicemen had been massacred in 1940, most of them members of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. A survivor, Mr Reg West, aged 81, a former officer of the regiment, was still seeking justice for his fallen comrades. "We owe it to them."

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said that he had been

in touch with the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr George Younger), who had asked him to make clear that all material relevant to the massacre in the custody of the ministry was being rigorously re-examined to see if it could provide the basis for the sort of action for which Mr Mohrke was pressing.

The courts in this country had no jurisdiction in this case. If information did come to light it would be a matter for the Foreign Secretary and Mr Younger to consider.

Later, during business questions, Mr Grenville Janner (Leicester West, Lab) asked for a debate on the Government's "unworthy" policy of keeping secret many documents more than 40 years old concerning the deaths of British Servicemen and prisoners of war.

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said that he could not promise a debate on that subject.

## Kuwaitis praised

It was excellent that the 17 prisoners were still in jail in Kuwait despite the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner, Mrs Thatcher said during questions.

She agreed with Mr Thomas Sackville (Bolton West, C), who asked her to commend the Kuwaiti Government and to agree that those governments that failed to learn the lesson that terrorism must be resisted exposed their own citizens and everyone else to risk.

The Prime Minister said that she had urged the Kuwaitis not to give in. The Foreign Secretary would raise the implications of hijacks in the EEC Council of Ministers next week.

## Commons bans Mace dispute MP for 20 days

The following report of the Commons debate on the motion to suspend Mr Eric Forth (Mid-Worcestershire, C) to suspend him for 60 days and not to let him return until he had apologized both fell through lack of time.

After debate in a packed House the motion was passed by 463 votes to 26 - majority, 437.

The decision came after the incident in the chamber on Monday when Mr Brown dropped and damaged the Mace and his later refusal to make an apology that had been agreed by the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill).

A proposal by Mr Robert Cryer (Bradford South, Lab) not

to suspend Mr Brown and a proposal by Mr Eric Forth (Mid-Worcestershire, C) to suspend him for 60 days and not to let him return until he had apologized both fell through lack of time.

Moving the motion, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said that it had been tabled with the agreement of the official Opposition.

The agreement to the motion from both sides was "a clear sign that the House generally accepts the importance of upholding the authority of the Chair".

On Monday night Mr Brown had picked up the mace. "He then released it and as it hit the floor it sustained a certain amount of damage."

Arrangements had been made yesterday for Mr Brown to make a personal statement about his conduct, but, despite being given ample time by the Speaker to make a statement and to apologize, he had failed to do so in a way that satisfied the House and had to be asked to withdraw from the chamber.

"His conduct showed a deep disrespect for the dignity and position of the Speaker and the authority he exercises on behalf of the House itself."

Nobody who heard Mr Brown yesterday could believe that he regretted his action. "Indeed, I understand that he has since said as much to the press."

A 20-day suspension was a penalty which would automatically follow on the second occasion in a single session that the same MP had been named. Not many MPs would disagree that Mr Brown's aggravation of his original misconduct by his persistent refusal to give a satisfactory apology justified a penalty more severe than that which Mr Brown would have received yesterday had he been named.

"Nor do I think that any MP would feel it right for the public purse to bear the cost of putting right the damage to the Mace as a result of his conduct."

Mr Cryer's amendment to reduce the penalty to financial

liability for the damage to the Mace could conceivably have been acceptable had Mr Brown shown genuine regret.

Mr Forth's amendment would take a tougher line. "But I do not think it would be right to bring forward new disciplinary measures in one particular case without a more general consideration of the House's powers in this respect."

He hoped to table the motion next week to set up the Procedure Committee. It may be that the committee would wish to carry out a review of the House's disciplinary procedures and, if so, MPs would wish to take their comments into account before making any changes.

Mr Brown said that perhaps there had been a misunderstanding yesterday about what was meant by a personal statement.

Any damage to the Mace would be paid for by himself and "my friends back home" by members of the engineering union who are quite happy to do what they can to make everything better.

"They will certainly look at the Mace simply because it symbolizes so much to so many individuals on either side of the House."

"But you still know my strength of feeling, bearing in mind what has been happening to working class people."

## Scandinavian silver is a world beater

Bukowski, the Stockholm auctioneer, pushed Scandinavian silver into the big time yesterday, achieving a world record of £227,300 (double estimate) for a rococo-style tureen, its handles and legs in the shape of leaves. Similar to one at the Royal Castle in Stockholm, 1756.

Having recently embraced Scandinavian paintings, lifting their prices into line with those achieved by Old Masters, the art market is clearly doing the same for silver. The record for an English piece is £700,000.

Other high prices for silver included £31,000 (estimate £18,200) for a pair of eighteenth-century candlesticks by Lars Boyer, and a coffee pot dated 1775, which fetched £23,700.

During this week's marathon sale, Bukowski also had fine prices for Scandinavian furniture. A pair of late eighteenth-century corner

cupboards by Iweresson fetched £48,000 against an estimate of £16,400, and a set of four tea tables with porcelain trays by Marieberg sold for £36,000 (estimate £11,000).

Sotheby's success rate for its European works of art sale was far better than Christie's on Wednesday, at 84 per cent sold to Christie's 56 per cent.

A monumental North Spanish Renaissance wood altar-piece fetched top price of £462,000 (estimate £150,000 to £250,000), going to a private buyer. It was carved by the workshop of Guio, Juan and

Mateo Beaugrant, a family of Flemish origin which worked in the Basque regions during the sixteenth century. Centred on the Crucifixion, with the Virgin, St John and the Magdalene grasping the foot of the Cross, it includes a carved relief of Jerusalem.

Second highest lot was a Florentine terracotta group of a battle scene, attributed to the fifteenth-century artist Giovanni Francesco Rustici, which sold for three times its estimate at £275,000.

Many nineteenth century icons sold well over estimate

at Christie's and the sale totalled £156,255, with 80 per cent sold.

Also at Christie's, this time South Kensington, an album of photographs taken by the Rev George Wilson Bridges (1788 to 1863), Roger Fenton and others, and including views of Bethlehem, the Nile and Malta, sold within estimate for £15,400 to an American.

Although the actor Danny La Rue's Bechstein grand piano has been played by Noel Coward and Liberace, it sold modestly within estimate at Phillips yesterday for £2,640.

## Chernobyl charges rejected

By John Young Agriculture Correspondent

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food yesterday rejected Labour Party claims that it had failed to take prompt action to minimize any risk to public health in the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster two years ago.

On Wednesday, Dr David Clark, Labour's spokesman on agriculture and rural affairs, accused the Prime Minister of "gross irresponsibility" in twice refusing his call for a public inquiry.

The ministry yesterday rejected Dr Clark's suggestion that seriously contaminated lambs from Cumbria and north Wales might have been sold at market.

"We are confident that no one at any time ate lamb with a radioactive level of more than 1,000 becquerels," the ministry said.

Accusations of excessive government secrecy were described as extraordinary. "There was not a single monitoring statistic which had not been put into the public domain."

## Cost cutting boost for low-salt bacon rasher

Bacon lovers who watch their salt intake generally look out for tender sweet and succulent varieties, which tend to have less salt, and this week those are down by 20p a lb.

Home-produced lamb has gone up. Expect to pay between £2.65 and £3.20 a lb for a whole leg and £1.40 to £2.20 for a whole shoulder. Beef roasting joints are also up. Topside is about £2.32 a lb, boneless sirloin £3.05 and rib joints £1.61.

Large cod at an average £1.92, codling £1.82, coley £1.12, mackerel 71p and lemon sole £2.50, are cheaper than last week. Brill is £3.40 a lb, turbot £4.40, and Dover sole about £4.90.

Spain and Carmel strawberries are 45p to 75p a ½ lb. Strawberries from South Africa and Australia are £1.50 to £1.80 a lb. Cape Beurre Bosc pears are 35p to 50p a lb; pineapples from Africa 35p to £2.50 each. Ribwort grapes from Chile are 70p to 90p a lb. Oranges are 6p to 25p each, bananas 35p to 50p a lb.

Best vegetable buy is cauliflower, 30p to 60p each; Italian and Spanish calabrese broccoli, 80p to £1.15 a lb; courgettes 60p to 80p; mushrooms 40p to 75p a ½ lb; potatoes 11p to 14p a lb.

Supermarket offers include: Asda, fresh and frozen mince beef 99p a lb; braising steak £1.49, fresh basted chickens 71p; Tesco, fresh leg of lamb £1.99 a lb, fresh boneless pork chops £1.49, whole stuffed chickens 89p; Sainsbury, pork loin chops £1.18 a lb, rumpsteak £2.58; frozen chicken 42p; Safeway, sirloin £2.99 a lb, whole shoulder of New Zealand lamb 68p; Presto, rumpsteak £2.49 a lb, porterhouse/sirloin £2.99, whole shoulder of New Zealand lamb 68p; Debenhams, whole leg of pork 89p a lb, pork packs 69p, fresh chicken portions 79p a lb; Bejam, frozen chicken 58p a lb, Bowyers thick pork sausages 24½ for £2.19.

## 'Bigots' taunt over Budd

The case of Zola Budd, the South African-born runner was again raised in the Commons. During questions about forthcoming business in the Commons, Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C) spoke of the hypocrisy and bigotry of those who were far more interested in politics than sport.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C), a former Olympic and Commonwealth Games athlete, said it was inconceivable that after all the controversy about her, Miss Budd could return to South Africa and attend an athletics meeting where she was bound to be greeted as a celebrity by those who supported the apartheid regime without her realizing that she was bound to create real problems both for herself and for British athletes generally.

Many British athletes regarded her action as a deliberate and extremely selfish act.

## More owning shares

Last October's fall on the world's stock markets had had no discernible impact on share ownership, Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said during question time in the Lords.

About nine million people now own shares, he said, a threefold increase since 1979, according to the joint Treasury and Stock Exchange survey in January and February. These share owners represented 20 per cent of the adult population.

## NHS lottery approved

It would be a very good thing if the lottery proposed by the National Hospital Trust raised extra money for the National Health Service, the Prime Minister told MPs at question time.

Mrs Thatcher said that the lottery appeared to be a private matter and, so far as the Government could make out, it seemed to be legal. Ministers at the DHSS would not seek to recover any money forthcoming from the trust by adjusting health authority limits.

## Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Local Government Bill, completion of remaining stages.  
Tuesday: Finance (No 2) Bill, second reading.  
Wednesday: Debate on Opposition motion on changes on housing benefits.  
Thursday: Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill, second reading.  
Friday: Licensing (Retail Sales) Bill, report. Access to Medical Reports Bill, committee.

The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Employment Bill, third reading. Housing (Scotland) Bill, committee, first day.  
Tuesday: Housing (Scotland) Bill, committee, second day.  
Wednesday: Debates on issues heard on the BBC. Thursday: Housing (Scotland) Bill, committee, third day.

Parliament today Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills: Protection of Animals (Amendment) Bill, Malcomson. Communications Bill, committee. Sale of War Toys (Prohibition) Bill, second reading.

## Subsidy fears over luxury cruise liner project

By Richard Ford Political Correspondent

Plans to build the world's biggest cruise liner in Northern Ireland have met with a cool response because of fears it might need a multi-million pound subsidy.

Mr Ravi Tikoo, an Indian entrepreneur, wants to construct the £63 million ship at the state-owned Harland and Wolff yard in east Belfast. The yard has worked for its 3,800 employees only until 1990.

There is a suspicion among govern-

ment ministers and officials that big publicity surrounding the announcement that Harland and Wolff has exchanged an initial agreement was designed to press the Government into a decision about a subsidy.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was cautious and appeared less than enthusiastic when he welcomed the plan as "imaginative". In spite of the publicity, the Northern Ireland Office has not had detailed discussions with the company.

Without subsidy it is doubtful

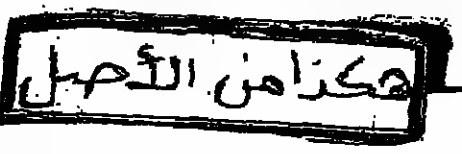
whether the project, codenamed Ultimate Dream, would get under way. No formal costings have been received from the shipyard, nor any indication of the level of subsidy required. It is being emphasized that Mr King must judge what is in the best interests of the whole province and not just of Harland and Wolff.

One Whitehall source said people were asking who was to pay for the ship and if giving a subsidy was the best use of large sums of money. A former Conservative Cabinet minister said: "Let us hope it is not another De

Lorean or Lear Fan - both projects which cost the taxpayer millions."

The announcement of the project comes at a time when the Government is taking a far tougher approach towards mounting losses at Harland and Wolff, amid projections that the taxpayer will have to provide annual subsidies of up to £60 million for several years.

With little imminent sign of the yard making money, ministers and officials in the province are known to have been closely examining its performance and future potential.

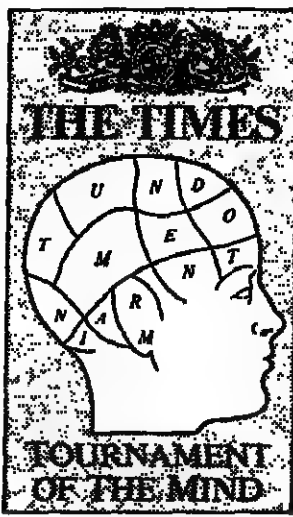








# Tournament of the Mind



## ● Final round of the schools' tournament — with an IBM personal computer to be won

The long trail to find the winners of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind, which attracted more than 30,000 entries, comes closer to the finish today with the last questions to be faced by the 11 teams in the schools' final.

The schools teams, which can consist of up to 10 members, are playing for an IBM Personal System/2 computer. All the schools have to have their answers returned by Wednesday April 27.

Today is the closing date for

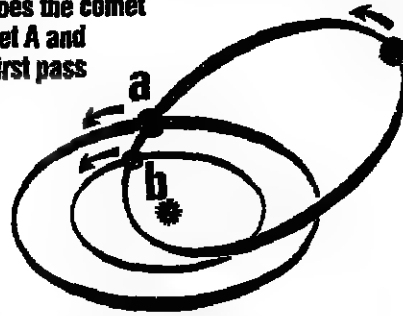
the individual finals, with 124 people playing for *The Times* Mind of the Year trophy and a cash prize of £5,000. All the finalists will receive a certificate to mark their achievement.

With a day to go, many entries had already been received yesterday. Harold Gale, executive director of British Mensa, who set the questions throughout the contest, said: "First, we were amazed and pleased at the huge interest generated by the competition.

The standard has been high throughout but the finalists have been absolutely brilliant. Questions which we thought would prove impossible to answer have caused little or no difficulty. Some people have asked for them to be made even more difficult."

It is hoped to announce the winner of both finals next week, as well as the answers to the final questions. In the event of a tie further questions will be asked, until overall winners are found.

In the diagram, a comet is 0° through its orbit. It passes planet A at a point when this planet is at 0° and the comet is ¼ way through its orbit. They next pass each other when the comet and planet A are ¾ through each of their orbits. The comet passes planet B when this planet is at 0° and the comet has completed ¾ of its orbit. They next pass each other when the comet and planet B are ¾ through their respective orbits. Planet A orbits the sun every 33 years, planet B orbits the sun every 22 years and the comet arrives every 48 years. In years, when does the comet first pass planet A and when does it first pass planet B?



Can you think of two words of the same six letters which will replace the stars in this sentence.

The orange \* \* \* \* \* on the flag signified a state run by God's \* \* \* \* \*

Two oranges, one apple and one date cost £2.71. Two pears, one orange and one date cost £2.61. If you bought four fruits, each one different, the cost would be £2.57, while two apples, one orange and one pear would cost £2.54. How much would two oranges and two dates cost?

Work out the reasoning behind this series of letters and then tell us which letter should come next.  
A S P S A S T S G I C R ?

1. Which Chinese philosopher criticized Confucius for stressing ritual rather than virtue and proposed the principle of universal love?
2. Which Austrian dramatist wrote *A Dream is Life*?
3. Which snake preys chiefly on other snakes and is usually patterned with blue and white or black and yellow/tan bands?
4. Who deciphered Cretan Linear-B?
5. Which disease, caused by eating fish contaminated with dimethyl mercury, killed 43 people in a Japanese town between 1953 and 1956?

# Bright sparks spurned

As Geneva hosts a showcase for the world's inventors, Sally Brompton looks at the way Britain treats its home-grown talent

Peter Mallett's good idea is the stuff of which fortunes are made. His non-spill urinal has been highly acclaimed by nurses whose patients have tried it. The problem is that Mallett, 36, an architectural designer from Launceston in Cornwall, has neither the money nor the expertise to manufacture and market his invention. His attempts to interest companies in its undoubted potential have so far proved futile.

It is hardly surprising that, after more than two years of rejection, Mallett confesses to having become "a little bit jaundiced and cynical about the whole business". Even so, he has not given up hope. "I know it's a good idea, and the people who have used it think it's a good idea. But I am not prepared to risk my house in order to set up my own production company. Being a designer, I'm not interested in the commercial side of things and I'm not good at dealing with the headaches involved."

Mallett's predicament is typical of those encountered by thousands of inventors, amateur and professional, many of whom are the unsung heroes and heroines of British technology. And this despite industry's growing awareness of their potential: one organizer of business and industrial exhibitions now incorporates regular inventors' competitions at its events, such as that at Cardiff next month and others at Glasgow and Bournemouth in the autumn. The Scottish competition has already received more than 200 applications from inventors anxious to air their ideas before a business audience.

Sadly, few of this country's small-time inventors will be in Geneva this week for the important International Exhibition of Inventions and New Techniques. Most of them cannot afford to attend this annual showcase which features inventions from all over the world and attracts 100,000 visitors.

Frank West, chairman of the National Association for Inventors & Innovation, understands the problems better than most. "An inventor should be inventing," says West, a life-long inventor himself of such industrial classics as the reciprocating drive. "He shouldn't be forced into a position where he has got to go out and market his product. We've been forced to turn ourselves into businessmen."

With unworried inventors in mind, West co-founded the association to help them get their products



Going begging: nurses approve of Peter Mallett's non-spill urinal, an advance on the old design (left), but a two-year attempt to interest firms failed

marketed and to create new ideas for manufacturers. "A true inventor is born, not bred," he says. "We have an ability to solve problems. We seem more open-minded than other people. We look at everything from so many different angles."

Unhappily, these creative geniuses are, more often than not, ignorant of the practical and legal intricacies of producing a marketable item, even to the extent of failing to do initial research to find if their idea is commercially viable or whether someone else has already taken out a patent.

"Inventors aren't very good at presenting their products," says Richard Paine, chairman of Inventalink, the London-based invention consultants. "They tend to be over-enthusiastic about them. When we present an idea to a manufacturer we do so very simply, in one paragraph and in words of one syllable. The inventor will probably send them eight pages of indecipherable and complicated stuff, and people get bored reading it."

The former head of an advertising agency, Paine co-founded Inventalink five years ago with a patent lawyer, an inventor and a market researcher. He estimates that of 3,000 inventions they see each year they take on no more than 150, of which 10 per cent will succeed — "a very high hit rate".

A recent "winner" was the inventor of an insulated fibre-glass roofing system that is expected to produce a turnover of between £5 million and £10 million in the next three to four years, providing the inventor, it is hoped, with hundreds

of thousands of pounds in royalties. So, in the week that the Government's advertising machine is urging us to become good Europeans and extolling the virtues of 1992 and a single European market, does the small inventor feel encouraged? Frank West is ambivalent. "There is no doubt that it will increase outlets and possibilities for inventors, but what we don't want to do is to open a lot of doors so that the manufacturers and investors come from overseas, because then the profits will go overseas. Ideally, we want to

get the products on the market in Britain, then sell them abroad."

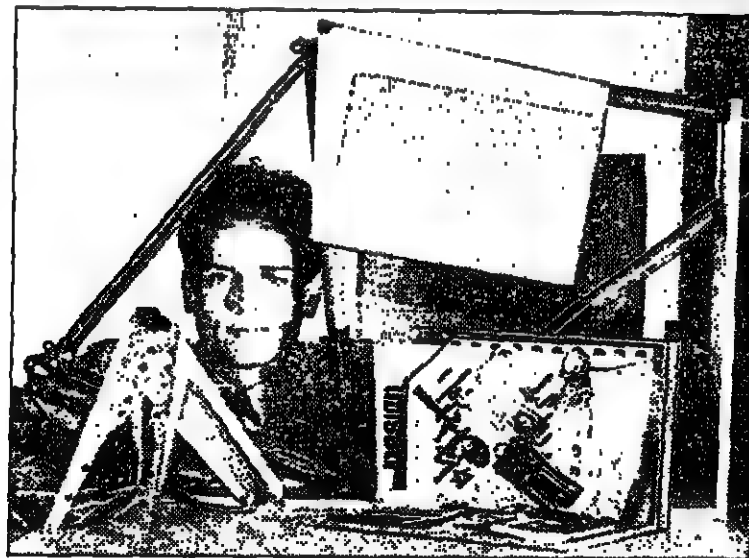
The naive inventor is not always to blame for his lack of success. More often than not, manufacturers refuse even to consider a marketable idea from a private inventor. According to Ivor Harrison, a West Country chartered patent agent, it is "partly a matter of corporate pride. If a company has a large, sophisticated research and development department it likes to think it knows better than someone who just comes along knocking on the door."

Patenting is frequently another stumbling block. The Patent Office strongly recommends that inventors seek the services of one of the country's 1,200 patent agents.

To the men with the original inspiration, it can all add up to a frustrating and, often, heartbreaking business. "It does sometimes cause terrible marital problems," West says. "We have people on the headline who consider that the most important thing in their life is to get their idea going."

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## INVENTORY: THE PROGRESS OF THREE IDEAS



### SIDEWORKER

Invention: ladder attachment for bucket, toolbox or paint container (right)

Advantages: light, stable, safe and saves time wasted going up and down ladders

Stage: in production

Inventor: Donald Rayner, 52, builder from Torpoint, Cornwall

"It was invented for a very difficult job but proved so useful that I thought I would try to get it produced commercially. Now it's selling in 20 major stores in Devon and Cornwall and about 90 per cent of my time is spent marketing it"



### BIKE BIX

Invention: Filofax-style, injection-moulded plastic briefcase designed to fit on bicycle (left)

Advantages: smart, fashionable, needs no fittings

Stage: prototype

Inventor: Alan Somerfield, 25, industrial design engineer from west London

"I created it with someone like me in mind who lives in London and travels to business meetings by bicycle. The only problem is that it needs to be produced in large quantities to make it cost-effective so I'm trying to take it into the American market"



### TRENPEN

Invention: steel-framed interconnecting lambing pens (above)

Advantages: lightweight, cheap to produce, easy to erect and move around, safe and hygienic for lambs and ewes

Stage: prototype

Inventors: Robert and Anne Strongman, both 34, sheep-farmers from Truro, Cornwall

"We've been using these pens for four years," Anne Strongman says, "and a lot of the farmers around us have said we should market them. But while we know about sheep we don't know about marketing"

# Just the ticket for hospitals?

The plans for a health service lottery announced yesterday have a long foreign pedigree, Alan Franks reports

In a money matter, as the world knows, when America sneezes, Great Britain catches cold. Those who oppose the idea of a national lottery over here to help finance the hospital service — and there are many — can claim ample evidence of contagion from the US.

However, there are undoubtedly financial advantages. At present 22 states are using lotteries to generate funds for public services such as health and education. Two years ago the total raised annually was \$5 billion, and this is expected to double before the decade is out. In practical terms the states operating the system are raising from 2 to 8 per cent of their entire revenue needs.

There is nothing new in the phenomenon. Such gambling was commonplace in the US during the last century, brought to a temporary end in 1890 by federal statute. The practice resurfaced in New Hampshire in 1963, the declared aim of John King, the state governor, being to relieve his people from the burdens of taxation, and has not looked back. Inevitably the state which threw itself most flamboyantly into the gambling business was California. In October 1985, with a \$30 million advertising campaign and an explosion of fireworks, laser shows and rallies.

But even in this most innovative of states there has been emphatic opposition from political heavyweights, churches, synagogues and law enforcement agencies. While proponents emphasized the elements of fun and social responsibility, critics argued that in other states, when the lottery windfall arrived and was channelled into education the school funds were simply reduced accordingly.

The Republican chairman of the Senate Education Committee in New York said in 1985 of his own state's operations: "My inclination is to say it is a fraud, and the public is not wrong if it is disillusioned."

In France, national lotteries are raising almost £2 million a year, of which just over 50 per cent is returned in prize money. But it is the citizens of Spain who are spending their money on games of chance at a rate second only to the Americans.

They have a history of devotion to lotteries which dates right back to 1812, soon

after the formation of Spain's first government. The main date in the national lottery calendar falls on December 23, when the results of *El Gordo* (the fat one) are announced. After the ceremony, the equivalent of £80 million is distributed to ticket holders.

Since the treasury takes about 30 per cent of the money put into the lotteries, the socialist government is understandably keen to hold on to its monopoly. However, when the regional government of Catalonia last year launched two lotteries on its own initiative, there was nothing that Madrid could do to stop it, and a huge chunk of the revenue has been set aside to help fund the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Even Turkey now has a state lottery which last year yielded a record top prize of two billion lira. (Alas, no one stepped forward to receive the fortune, through an administrative error, the winning number had not been sold.)

In the opinion of Simon Burns, Conservative MP for Chesham, who introduced a



## How British tickets will look

10-minute rule Bill on a national lottery to the Commons in February, it is a shame that Britain should fall behind the rest of the world in the lottery stakes. He points out that a 1978 survey by the Royal Commission on Gambling showed that 83 per cent of respondents did not consider that a lottery would encourage other forms of gambling.

The present impasse derives from the fact that while lotteries cannot hope to attract entrants without the lure of large cash rewards, the Lotteries and Amusements Act of 1976 has set a maximum of £6,000 on individual prizes. Yesterday Stephen Pike, head of the lotteries section of the Gaming Board, said that the new proposals advanced by the National Hospital Trust had not been registered with the board.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1546

ACROSS

- 1 Mould (6)
- 4 Torment (6)
- 7 Money amounts (4)
- 8 Gaborone state (8)
- 9 Pipit (7)
- 11 Bloodsucker (5)
- 12 Brain x-ray (13)
- 13 Poems series (5)
- 16 Round edge (7)
- 20 Polluted precipitation (4,4)
- 21 Open pie (4)
- 22 Cricket team (6)
- 23 Pace measurer (6)

DOWN

- 1 French beguine (7)
- 2 Boundary (5)
- 3 "Oberson" composer (5)
- 4 Loathe (4)
- 5 Non-professional (7)
- 6 Hide away (5)
- 10 Abundant (5)
- 11 Ridiculous (5)
- 13 Coca drug (7)
- 14 Distinguished musician (7)
- 15 Desire intensely (5)
- 17 Parents' sisters (5)
- 18 Unintelligent (5)
- 19 Young deer (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1545

ACROSS: 1 El Agga 4 Louvre 9 Pimento 10 Decor 11 Rich 12 Network 14 Pottinger 18 Typical 19 Ajax 22 Field 24 Nursey 25 Ensure 26 Tsetse

DOWN: 1 Esay 2 Admit 3 Synthetic 5 Old 6 Vicious 7 Eureka 8 John Ireland 11 Imp 13 Thebanus 15 Oppress 16 Tor

THE TIMES SATURDAY

Portfolio — PLUS NEW — Accumulator

At least £8,000 to be won

Heating up for the Olympics

People whose favourite food is cabbage steeped in peppers and garnished with garlic are not to be taken lightly — particularly when they are your hosts. As the Koreans prepare for the 1988 Olympics, Chris Peachmont assesses the welcome in Seoul, their capital city

Findings, our series on research, will return next week

مكزامن الأصيل





**A British destroyer, 100 miles off the Norwegian coast, comes under missile attack!**

**As MEO,<sup>2</sup> your brief is damage control. The Captain now looks to you to keep the ship operational.**

**Under your command, in the S.C.C.<sup>3</sup>, you have eight specialist officers and men. Posted fore and aft, linked to you direct, are the damage control parties.**

**You will have to know how to deal with fire, smoke and flood. (A 6" hole just below the water-line will flood a weapons magazine<sup>4</sup> in less than 10 mins.)**

**You will have to know how to restore stability should the ship (a 4,000-ton warship, remember) begin to list.**

**You will have to know how to maintain manoeuvrability if part of the propulsion system fails.**

**You will have to know how to restore power to damaged weapons systems. You will have to decide on your priorities and review them constantly.**

**It's on you, and those men serving under you, that the ability of the ship to float, move and fight depends.**

**Now, do you think you can handle the job of an Engineer Officer in the Royal Navy?**

The day-to-day duties of an MEO are less dramatic. (Slightly.) They include: propulsion of the ship (gas turbines, steam turbines, nuclear power; gearing, shafting and propellers); power generation and distribution - high-pressure oil, hydraulics, and life-support systems, hull maintenance, etcetera, and of course the responsibility for managing a department of skilled technicians.

It's a demanding job but Royal Navy training will help you meet the challenge. If you think you can cope with this kind of career, write to: Capt. R.S. Haslow RN, Dept 207A, Old Admiralty Building, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

We prefer you to be educated to degree or 'A' level standard, including Maths and Physics. You should be under 26 (qualified graduate Engineers with experience may be accepted up to 32). Normally you should have been a U.K. Resident for the past five years. The Armed Forces are Equal Opportunity Employers under the terms of the Race Relations Act 1976.

**ROYAL NAVY OFFICER**

1. A TYPICAL NAVAL EXERCISE SCENARIO (PICTURE SHOWS S.C.C. TEAM WEARING ANTI-FLASH GEAR). 2. MARINE ENGINEERING OFFICER. 3. SHIP CONTROL CENTRE. 4. STOREROOM (AVERAGE SIZE 20ft x 12ft x 8ft).



## TIMES DIARY

ROBERT ADLEY

**P**rivates and politicians should adhere to the adage "never complain, never volunteer". This column follows my complaint to the editor about the new diary arrangements. A clear candidate for the Whip's office, he recognized a troublemaker and offered me a job. Avoidance of the first-person singular is not easy for someone whose life support system is immodesty.

As name-dropping seems an essential element to diary writing, philistinism puts me at a singular disadvantage. Those smart West End galleries, musical soirées and "exclusive" establishments can happily exclude me. Invitation to a forthcoming dinner at Number 10, however, on the occasion of the visit of the Hungarian Prime Minister, reminds me how necessary it is to choose carefully those countries in which to take a political interest. My criteria require the inclusion of at least three of the following four attributes: interesting politics; intelligent, agreeable people; good food; and steam engines still in service. The People's Republic of China, almost alone, scores four out of four.

The Chinese Ambassador, Ji Chaozhu, telephoned the other day. His brother, an American citizen and TV actor, was paying his first visit to Britain, and wanted to embark on a pub crawl. Ji, fairly recently arrived here, asked my wife Jane and me to accompany him, his wife Wang Xiangtong and brother, around some of the more congenial hostilities of Belgrave and Chelsea. Digging into memories of youth, and abandoning the ambassadorial Rolls, we took in the "Lope, the Australian, the Shuckborough and the Ebury Wine Bar, finishing up with quite excruciatingly awful fish and chips near Victoria Coach Station. Wang Xiangtong remarked later: "That did rather more for our friendship than our digestion". Any country with ambassadors like that must be good news.

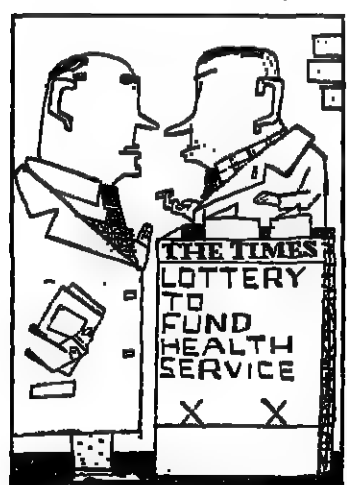
**P**olitics is a matter of perception. The pressures applied by the whips, especially to new members, conjure visions of terror in the minds of our fellow citizens. Yet in eighteen years, my memories of real unpleasantness are non-existent. The job of running the country is not easy, and this government has earned its reward for reasonable competence. The Prime Minister's choice of whips has been mastery, and covers the spectra of party opinion. Some of the ambitious *garagistes*—if Julian Critchley will allow me to borrow a word—take a very different view from our former colleagues, now sadly retired or passed on. Too many of our newer members are still asking the whips what to do, rather than telling them of their voting intentions.

**M**emories of Maplin returned poignantly on Monday. Rebelling against one's own government is a powerful generator of adrenalin. To one's own assurance of self-righteousness is added the conspiratorial camaraderie of like-minded colleagues, and the encouragement of the (journalistic) lobby, to whom such events are the oxygen of Westminster.

My determination to prevent the construction of a new airport at Foulness, or Maplin as it has become known—rather as Windscale has become Sellafield—led me to introduce a new Clause 1 at the report stage of the Maplin Bill on June 13th 1973, in the days of Ted Heath's government. Plotting with the late Tony Crosland was a civilized affair. Faced with an overall government majority of 31, we achieved our objective, inserting the New Clause in the Bill. Maplin Sands remain tranquil to this day.

Unlike Michael Mates, my courage after the vote deserted me on that night. Fleeing the lobby, the too provided sanctuary for half an hour as the consequences of victory sunk in. Unlike Michael, we rebels enjoyed the company of the member for Cirencester and Tewkesbury, Nicholas Ridley, in the "Aye" lobby.

BARRY FANTONI



"Shouldn't surprise the Government, they've been gambling with the NHS for years"

**R**ailway enthusiasts who are regular travellers on BR sometimes find themselves faced with an interesting predicament: whether to voice criticism of the provider of our favourite form of transport, or to stifle annoyance in the cause of our fancy. Boarding a train home to Dorset recently, anticipation of the joy of travel was stifled by the absence of first-class seats in which to sit. We had flown from Madrid, travelled to Waterloo and now both stood in the guard's van, reluctantly unhooked for us. A failed diesel locomotive hauling a freight train added 35 minutes to our sojournal discomfort.

On returning to London on the Monday, the experience was recounted in a letter to the estimable Chris Green, director of BR's Network SouthEast, a man for whom the customer counts. My suggestion of a refund for my fellow-traveller was immediately accepted and a BR cheque winged its way to foreign parts. Any one who wants either to arrive in comfort and on time or to be fully compensated for lack of first-class accommodation, should contact my secretary who will sift applications. The selection of my chosen traveller will be undertaken carefully and rigorously: a beautiful, intelligent, sly-eyed railway enthusiast, familiar with the attributes of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, stands a good chance.

The author is Conservative MP for Christchurch

One of the most painful dilemmas resulting from medical advance is the question of what to do with the seriously handicapped new born infant.

The problem was put in stark terms this week when Professor Alexander Campbell told an ethical conference in Leeds that hospital doctors were justified in allowing some frail babies to die by withholding or withdrawing life-saving treatment from them.

Professor Campbell went on to say that there were clear cases where withholding care or withdrawing life support was justified. But he was doing no more than underlining this fact: doctors still deliberately act to bring to an end the lives of handicapped infants. This was made clear in the evidence given in the Arthur case some years ago, in which a paediatrician was charged with the attempted murder of a Down's Syndrome baby for whom no treatment was provided. That prosecution shocked the medical profession, but it has not really changed its views.

The moral question we have to face is at first glance a simple one. Should doctors—and parents—seek to prolong the life of infants whose prospects are extremely poor?

An inclination to give a simple answer is dangerous, as we immediately encounter the difficulty of deciding which infants are involved. There might be fairly general agreement on ex-

treme cases such as the anencephalic baby where there is effectively no brain present, but matters are not so straightforward in relation to the infant suffering from, for instance, spina bifida. There is still disagreement among doctors as to which cases of this condition are worth saving.

As far as Down's Syndrome is concerned, the difference of opinion is even starker. Down's Syndrome children survive and have an increasingly long life expectancy. Is their life really so miserable that parents should be entitled to reject them at birth? In this last case, it is difficult to see the practice as other than homicide.

The main criterion on which the decision is taken as to who shall live and who shall die must be the quality of life which that infant will have.

If the child's life is going to be short and filled with pain, then considerations of beneficence suggest that there it would be morally right to refrain from keeping it alive. If, by contrast, the child could have a reasonable quality of life (and most Down's

Alexander McCall-Smith discusses a new doctors' dilemma

# Life or death for a baby

Syndrome children must fall into this category) then there is clearly a duty to provide it with such reasonable treatment as to allow it to live.

To argue otherwise, whether on the ground of parental or social convenience, is to justify the abandonment of those for whom society has no use. This is the famous slippery slope, on which some philosophers and lawyers believe we have already set foot.

It is not without significance that there is now a school of thought which claims that parents have a right to commit infanticide during the first few weeks of the infant's life. This position, advocated by writers such as Michael Tooley, is based on the theory that we do not acquire a right to life until we are capable of holding interest, and we do not become capable of that until some time after birth. Other philosophers talk of a "human community," and suggest that some infants are not in it.

If the decision is taken that the quality of life is such that it would be inappropriate to pro-

long the infant's life, doctors still have to decide what to do.

In one view, the kindest thing to do would be to end the infant's life there and then, by positive intervention. This course, it may be argued, involves the least suffering and is surely more humane than watching a prolonged death.

That may be so, but there are reasons why it cannot be done. The most immediate of these reasons is a legal one. Euthanasia remains an act of homicide. And the motive behind the act is irrelevant. There is always pressure for the reform of the law here, but nowhere, with the exception of The Netherlands, has there been the political will to make a change.

There is also, of course, a profound ethical objection to the performance of positive acts directed towards the ending of a life. In spite of the objections that there is no real moral distinction between inaction and action where the end result in each case is the same, this distinction can still be defended. Taking a positive step to kill involves a close identification

with the result and may well brutalize those who take it.

The only available course of action, then, is to refrain from treating the infant. This means that no operation need be performed, nor need infections be treated: nature is simply allowed to take its course. This holding back will result in the infant's death, hastened by the effect of sedation.

Those who believe in the absolute sanctity of life may object, but there are unlikely to be any serious legal obstacles to such a course in cases where the infant would clearly face bleak and fruitless prospects. Even in the United States, where there exist legions of lawyers ready to sue or prosecute doctors, there has been statutory acceptance of medical judgement as to the circumstances in which non-treatment is in the interests of a severely handicapped child.

The propriety of non-treatment may be considered established, at least in those cases where there is no hope of any reasonable life for the infant, but another issue has now increasingly come to the fore. This is the

question of whether there is an obligation to provide nutrition and hydration for the infant. In principle, we must care for all members of society in this respect, even if the decision has been taken not to provide treatment. Yet does this extend to those whose brief lives will be only marginally extended by the process?

The withdrawal of food and water need not involve great suffering, and will hasten the process of dying, which is, after all, the desired goal. The Americans have answered this question by defining the withdrawal of these basic items of care as child abuse. At the same time, their courts have tended to view that in the case of adults withdrawing artificial nutritional support may be no more than merely terminating an inappropriate form of treatment.

If we consider nutrition a form of treatment rather than a basic obligation of care, then there is no legal problem involved in its withdrawal. If we take the view that it really is a basic obligation, then not providing it could amount to a criminal offence. Doctors must unfortunately live with that uncertainty. Perhaps we should respect our intuition in this respect: the act of providing food and water is symbolic of reverence for life, and it is difficult to ignore that.

The author is currently Visiting Professor at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas

Roy Jenkins

# Europe's reluctant power

**A** salient feature of Europe since the war has been the deep-seated reluctance of the major powers to play a strong political hand. Much of the stage of Europe has been occupied by the British and the French, each in their different way, trying to exercise a power somewhat beyond their capacity, and the Germans trying to push power away.

The differing approaches were frequently reflected on the monetary side by the Bundesbank strenuously but unavailingly trying to prevent the D-mark becoming a reserve currency, while the British clung to the Sterling Area long after it made any sense.

This at least has the advantage of showing that leopards can change their spots and nations can learn from experience. Britain, by contrast, just repeats its errors. Having suffered for years from allowing Europe to be made in a Franco-German shape by not going to the Messina Congress and joining at the beginning, it now excludes itself from a 1980s leadership role by remaining frozen outside the European Monetary System.

Nevertheless this German abstinence has produced a grave imbalance. The Federal Republic is inevitably the "middle kingdom" of the Community, as it is also the cis-Atlantic pillar of Nato. Britain may believe that she ought to sit on the right hand of the American captain but it is Germany which is absolutely crucial at the tiller of the European end of the Atlantic Alliance.

This is true for a mixture of economic and geographic reasons. The Alliance was forged in the furnace of the Berlin airlift to defend the frontier of the West which runs through the old Germany, and the combination of loyalty to Washington and economic virility shown by successive Bonn governments has been a crucial factor in making the Americans feel that

the commitment was worthwhile.

There are only two countries in Europe which are vital to the Alliance. One is Germany and the other is Britain. A maverick semi-detachment on the part of France has been accepted from the early 1960s. Italy has been conspicuously loyal but has not been regarded as geographically important. In 1949 she was allowed into Nato only at the last moment, pressingly sponsored by France.

The other members are more cumulatively useful than individually essential. Thus it has always been a false argument to propound that because Denmark or Norway did not harbour nuclear bases Britain could reject them too. Except for a possible knock-on effect, it did not greatly matter what any one of them did. But the defection of either Germany or Britain would always have scuppered the Alliance and forced a profound reappraisal of United States policy.

**O**f the two, Britain has mostly been the more restless ally, more demanding of both aid and consultation, more threatening of a change of policy (even when its leader was to turn out to be such a loyal lieutenant as did Harold Wilson), more sceptical of American judgement. As long ago as the Cuban missile crisis, for example, the Macmillan government was initially more sceptical of the much prized American photographic evidence than was Adenauer in Bonn (or indeed De Gaulle in Paris, who accepted it and gave his support in a throwaway manner). Germany was not per-



haps the favourite son, her political leadership being a little weak on charm and suspect in history, but always the quietly dependable member of the Alliance family.

I vividly remember a Political Co-operation meeting of the European Foreign Ministers 11

years ago. The Americans (not present of course) wanted to stop a mild European initiative in the Middle East in order to keep the ground clear for themselves. The particular issue was not very important. The Americans were probably wrong. Most of the foreign ministers thought so, and

were half inclined to make an issue of it.

The German Foreign Minister (already Hans-Dietrich Genscher) probably agreed on the substance with most of his colleagues, but not on their order of priorities. If the point was crucial and if the Americans wanted their way, they should have it. With all the determined efficiency of a Mercedes plant manager rejecting a rash plan to produce an unnecessary model, he made sure they got it.

This self-asserting role has been an easier one to play in North Atlantic than in European affairs. It is one of the paradoxes of Europe that, while the Federal Republic, at any rate until very recently, has always been a massive and crucial supporter of the European ideal, and of the policies necessary to achieve it, it has never since the end in 1967 of Walter Hallstein's nine year reign as the most successful President of the European Commission adequately sustained the institutions of the Community.

This has shown itself in two ways: first in a German governmental habit of accompanying its proclaimed devotion to Europe by complaining at large about the Commission, rather like a great and fervent Catholic prelate who could not stand the Vatican; and second, insofar as there was force in the first point, doing its best to prevent its being corrected by refusing to appoint first-rate people to Brussels. This has applied both to the Commissioners (Ralf Dahrendorf from 1970-74 was an exception) and to the German ambassadors to the Community.

There is no shortage of first-rate German officials. In London and Washington Germany has mostly been very well represented. And in African capitals the German Ambassadors are frequently the best of the European bunch. But in Brussels Germany has for the past twenty years exercised no intellectual weight commensurate with its pre-eminent economic position,

nor even with that of the economies of France, Britain and Italy.

This has created a weakening semi-vacuum in the heart of Europe. It also affects the future of the Franco-German partnership. Insofar as there has been leadership in Europe in the past twenty years it has come from this axis. This may not always be welcome to Britain, Italy, Spain, or what are now the little seven countries, but it is a fact.

**O**f the two leaders, France traditionally believes in the more inward approach, looking back to the Europe of the original six, suspicious of the enlargement of the Community, happy within limits to have a row with America, instinctively rather protectionist. Germany traditionally stands for the opposite. The Gross National Product of Germany is substantially in excess of that of France. In these circumstances the natural assumption would be that the German would mostly prevail. This has not been so. The materialist theory of geopolitics has not worked. Both countries have done well out of the partnership. But France in any view and experience has done better than Germany.

So in both an Atlantic and a European context Germany, the third most powerful economy in the world, finds herself in a subordinate position, mainly by her choice, but the original free choice having somewhat run away with itself.

Her greatest period of economic success is almost certainly behind her. But will this then make her more or less content with a political force below her strength? Probably less, in my guess, rather in the way that a family of declining fortune may well become more status-conscious.

And if Germany becomes discontented, what does this mean for the future of Europe?

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

# Criminal ignorance

It was the 45th anniversary of the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto on Monday; a Holocaust Day ceremony was held in Hyde Park, London, last week in memory of the six million Jews murdered in Hitler's concentration camps.

Further ceremonies, called Remembering for the Future, will be held by Jewish organizations in July to raise public awareness of the attempt to exterminate their race.

I wouldn't have thought that this would have been necessary. A memorial service: yes. That's essential. But there can't, surely, be any need for busy people to go to all the trouble and expense of trying to make us aware of what we already know. And we do know about the plan to exterminate the Jews. Of course we do. Everyone knows. How could we possibly not? It was, after all, something that happened within the lifetime of many of us. It wasn't that long ago.

Even those not directly involved in the war, or too young to remember, will know all about the terrible events of those years. There is no way that they could escape knowing. The horrors, in all their terrible details, of the most momentous and evil period of all recorded history have been communicated time and again in every language by word, by mouth and by film.

And yet they do not know. Young, decent, idealistic and educated Britons have little or no idea of what was done to the Jews and others.

Some of the brightest and best of our teenagers have no knowledge or understanding of their own recent history. Even the

words — like "Final Solution," "gas chambers" and "concentration camps" — are meaningless to them.

This was clearly and embarrassingly demonstrated on *Kilroy* last week! Otherwise well-educated and informed teenage students from educational establishments as far apart as Lancashire and Sussex revealed an astonishing ignorance of the basic facts of events a mere 40 years ago.

Those who had heard of the Holocaust charmingly and frankly confessed to knowing about it only because they had been informed that it was to be the topic for discussion that day. It is not their fault. We must be clear about that. They cannot be blamed for the gaps in their curriculum, the inadequacy of their education, or the laziness of their teachers.

But someone is to blame. Someone has to be responsible for a state education system that allows bright and inquiring students to enter — and perhaps even leave — university without an appreciation of recent history. Without that, they cannot have any understanding of how we got to where we are today, of why Israel was created and is defended so fiercely, and why Europe is divided. They can have no sensitivity for the fears and ambitions, the prejudice and the principles, that motivate people, classes, races and nations.

It is extraordinary that the new recruits to our electoral roll will know all about a Roman villa but will never have heard of Auschwitz, Dachau or Belsen; will be erudite about the Spanish

Armada but found wanting on the Final Solution; will have the dates of the accession to the throne of all the kings and queens of England but will not be able to identify one cause of the Second World War.

Worse is that even those who have studied history to A level will share in this abysmal ignorance if they're among those whose syllabuses began with the English Civil War and ended with the Great War.

There may be good academic reasons for this. But there is no good reason, no tolerable excuse, for keeping our young people in ignorance of the nightmare attempt to obliterate an entire race.

The organizers of the Holocaust Day and Remembering for the Future are right. There's a criminal lack of knowledge of what the German nation attempted to carry through. It is worsened by the fact that only this newspaper actually reported last week's Holocaust Memorial Service.

This ignorance must be rectified. There cannot be any argument about that. We cannot understand our present unless we know our past.

More important, far more important, is our responsibility to impart to the young the depths that humanity is capable of slipping into, to tell them, as Primo Levi insists in *The Drowned and the Saved*, of the cruelty of the victims of the concentration camps even to each other, and to say, "look, it happened, therefore it can happen again."

Only by knowing this can we begin to try to see that it doesn't

SCIENCE REPORT

# On the mark

Prenatal diagnosis of the genetic disease called Huntington's chorea will be made more reliable by a development now reported by John J. Wasmuth, of the University of California at Irvine, and a group of US and Canadian researchers.

Huntington's disease is rare, affecting roughly one in 12,000, but because the first symptoms do not appear until middle life, after many carriers have passed it on to their children, and because of the slow progression of the disease towards its invariably fatal outcome, affected families are generally advised to avoid having children.

Writing in *Nature* this week, Wasmuth and his colleagues explain how they have built on the pioneering work of the Harvard group, which was the first to show that the gene for Huntington's disease is located on the shorter of the two arms of human chromosome 4.

That discovery, based on genetic analysis of one family in the United States and another in Venezuela, both carrying the gene, showed that inheritance of the Huntington's gene is most often (but not always) linked with the inheritance of another characteristic of the genetic DNA, called a genetic marker, which has no effect on a person's health, but which is easily recognized in the laboratory.

The Harvard team inferred that its genetic marker, while unambiguously on the same part of chromosome 4 as the Huntington's gene, was suf-



Richard Leadbetter

ficiently far away from it that the two were not always inherited together. The development reported from California is that of the discovery of a genetic marker so much closer to the authentic Huntington's gene that the two are almost invariably tied together in inheritance.

Genetic markers of this kind are now increasingly used forensically, for telling parents in cases of disputed domicile rights and for telling domestic those charged with crimes may be responsible for blood or semen specimens collected at the scene.

A further advantage of the new Huntington's marker is that it crops up naturally in several varieties, both in those susceptible to Huntington's disease and in normal people. The result is that the members of a single family carrying the

Huntington's gene will all be tagged by the same variety of the marker, which can be recognized by DNA analysis.

The researchers are not yet sure whether their new marker is located physically on chromosome 4 between the Harvard marker and the Huntington's gene or on the other side of the gene, towards the end of the chromosome.

That property and the closeness of the marker to the gene for Huntington's disease should simplify the process of telling which carriers of the gene are likely to have children who are at risk, and to identify the offspring before birth. But this facility will not be an unambiguously blessing during the past five years, physicians have struggled with the dilemma whether to tell people carrying the defective gene of their fate while they are still outwardly healthy.

While the immediate cause of the disease is believed to be the degeneration of brain tissue, nothing is known of the means by which the inheritance of a single defective gene brings this about.

The hope now is that the new marker will be "close" enough to the gene for the neighbouring DNA to be analyzed in detail, when it may be possible to tell what the gene does and how its effects might be ameliorated, possibly by drugs. Meanwhile, prenatal diagnosis will be more accurate.

The cost is passed on to the state, which is expected to pay for the screening of the population.

HENRY GEE

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## PAY IN THE MARKET

The Government's decision to accept in full the 15.3 per cent average pay increase for nurses recommended by the review body is sound politics. Since the election the Government has been under almost constant attack about the state of the health service. In the last couple of weeks difficulties over the new structure of social security and the poll tax have added to pressure on the health service. So the generous increase in nurses' pay will be a relief both for Mr John Moore, the Health Secretary, and Government backbenchers.

Whether the increase will prove statesman-like as well as politically sensible will only become clear later. The Government's general line is right. Ministers have sought to abandon the crude comparability with the private sector as a basis for public sector pay and replace it with the forces of supply and demand which determine pay packets, at least over the longer term. In the private sector, in the nursing profession there has been a shortage of nurses with particular skills in certain areas but the shortage has not been general.

The high average increase — substantially greater than last year's electioneering 9.5 per cent — is justified by the clinical grading review which will fundamentally change the structure of pay in the profession for the first time since the NHS began. The distribution surrounding the average increase of 15.3 per cent is a wide one stretching for the majority of nursing staff, from 4.2 per cent to 33.6 per cent. A few will get increases of as much as 60 per cent. Increases of this size should provide significant incentives. If the new structure succeeds in ending the current shortages then it will have been well worthwhile.

It will not be costless. The whole of the extra awards both for the nurses, the doctors and dentists and the other professions allied to medicine, will be funded by the Government for which £749 million extra will be made available from the reserve. Out of total reserves of £3.5 billion this year and £7 billion and £10.5 billion in the following two years this is acceptable, and was no doubt anticipated to

some extent when the Government drew up its spending plans in the autumn.

There is a risk that the rise will give the wrong signal to pay bargainers in other parts of the economy. At a time when ministers never lose an opportunity to exhort private sector employers to resist pay increases which have not been earned by productivity the Government must take care to explain the special circumstances of the nurses deal and to resist replicating increases on this scale in circumstances where they are not justified by the reform of pay structures.

The other awards made by the review body, all of which the Government is accepting, appear unexceptionable. Doctors and dentists get 7.9 per cent, other professions allied to medicine 8.8 per cent and the armed forces 6.4 per cent. The service pay awards will be paid for out of money already allocated to the defence programme.

Only the award of 5.5 per cent on the top salaries earned by senior Civil Servants, services and the higher judiciary will not be paid in full from April 1. The Government has decided to stage this by paying 4 per cent now and the rest from October. There are good reasons for this. Like other high earners the groups covered by the Top Salaries Review Body will benefit much from the cuts in higher rates of income tax in the Budget (though these cuts were made for good economic reasons). Judges, generals and permanent secretaries also had a big increase in their pay a few years ago (though this was designed mainly to make up for the many years in which their salaries had been held down for political reasons).

The decision to stage the increase in top salaries demonstrates again how little the existence of the Top Salaries Review Body contributes to making sensible decisions on pay in the higher reaches of the public sector. Much better would be to treat the people covered as members of their professions like any others. Singling them out in this way is both politically inept and economically unjustified.

## MR POWELL'S PROPHECY

No political speech in recent times has had so dramatic an impact as that delivered by Mr Enoch Powell, 20 years ago this week, on New Commonwealth immigration into Britain. Within days dockers, Smithfield porters and other groups of workers had demonstrated in support. Within two weeks he had received 100,000 letters and 700 telegrams of support.

As the *Times* correspondence revealed, the liberal middle class — largely sheltered from the day to day effects of immigration and still holding to the sentimental notion that immigration repaid the debt of Britain's colonial past — was outraged. The speech and the reaction it provoked — was to end Mr Powell's office-holding career. He was dismissed as shadow Defence Secretary by Mr Heath the next day.

Why such passion? It was not the policies that Mr Powell espoused: an end to immigration; voluntary repatriation and opposition to the Labour Government's Race Relations Bill. These were much in accordance with the then Opposition line. It was the language which inflamed liberal opinion, with its dire Virgilian prophecy of a river foaming with blood, of Britain "building its own funeral pyre" and the less classical reference to "grimming picaninies". Mr Powell had also broken the conspiracy of silence by senior politicians at the time — although, as we now know, the subject had caused concern in Cabinet since the early 1950s. The people who had been at the receiving end of immigration — the urban working class — found for the first time an expression of their resentment and fear.

The speech would not be made today. It is inconceivable that such language would be employed by a mainstream politician. Black and Asian immigrants and their children may not be popular with whites, but on the whole their presence is resignedly accepted. Thus far

at least have race relations progressed in the intervening years.

But what of Mr Powell's specific predictions of violence, of a rapid growth in the number of immigrants and of the growth of forces acting against integration? These have all to some extent come to pass, although to a much lesser degree than he predicted. There have been riots in Brixton, Handsworth, Tottenham and other cities. The ethnic minority population in Britain today, estimated at 2.45 million, is a million lower than anticipated by Mr Powell. But he was mainly drawing on some of the professional statisticians of the day. Today's statistics in their turn illustrate, however, a rapid rise by the year 2000 to some 7 per cent of population — not so far from his prediction of 10 per cent.

As for the growth of "forces acting against integration," this can be illustrated to some extent by the very rapid growth of the "race relations industry" over the last 20 years, many of whose representatives are now bent on achieving positive discrimination for their client groups and whose existence depends on accentuating the grievance and resentment felt by the ethnic population towards the white population.

As the ethnic population rises, so will its political influence. No one today still holds to the belief, common among 60s liberals, that Britain will become a "colour-blind" society. It is more likely that the ethnic minorities will be courted by politicians for their support in return for concessions, as now happens in the United States — not a comfortable situation for the white majority. But it must be hoped that whites will come to terms with it, as they have come to terms with much else mentioned by Mr Powell in that speech of 20 years ago, with its mixture of prophecy true and false.

## COMMERCIAL BREAK

This week's announcement of new cost-cutting by Independent Television News is just the latest stage in a long-overdue revolution. British TV channels have realized at last that their lack of competitiveness threatens them in the international market.

At present they are much insulated from the tougher commercial pressures on their American and European equivalents. The BBC is supported by the licence fee. ITV has an advertising monopoly.

Much of the emphasis of those who would reform the system has centred on the injustice to licence payers and the prospects for programme makers. Too little attention has been paid to the impact on the economy as a whole. The report this week from the consultants Booz Allen & Hamilton, commissioned by leading British advertisers, corrects that.

It says that advertising on ITV and Channel 4 is over 60 per cent more expensive than the European average and has been rising at almost six times the inflation rate. The report claims that this costs advertisers some £700 million per year and harms the sales of British products.

The cost is passed on to consumers by some £600 million worth a year of higher prices, the report says. Small firms and small brands are virtually debared from using television as an advertising medium. High television advertising costs make it much more difficult to launch new products, and companies, in Britain than in Britain's main competitors.

One way of cutting advertising costs would be by state regulation. Another, which the report recommends, is granting Channel 4 the right to sell advertising space on the open market, in competition with ITV. But the most obvious way of reducing advertising costs is by

increasing advertising time. The report — which recommends new national television stations partly financed by advertisements — coincides with a government decision on this subject, expected within the next few days. It will undoubtedly give the Government fresh support for its belief that such channels are necessary.

The report says that one new general "terrestrial" channel would be enough, if coupled with competitive selling of Channel 4 airtime. The increased space provided for advertising would bring down costs to industry. Production costs would follow. Many of the present absurdly uneconomic union agreements within ITV — breakfast television being the most notorious recent example — would have to go. And if the restrictive practices were no longer financed by advertisers, film-makers would be encouraged back to Britain too.

The main argument of those who oppose further TV channels has been about reduction in quality. But BBC funding would remain unchanged. ITV revenue would drop, but according to the report would still be a comfortable £957 million. That of Channel 4, it says, would actually increase.

If a drop in quality is not to occur, it is all the more important that the drop in the price of advertising to industry be matched by the drop in production costs, allowing more independent producers to appear, and permitting the new channel to innovate.

As 1992 approaches, it is also more than ever important that neither British programmes nor British goods should price themselves out of the international market. A cut in the cost of television advertising would be an important way of making sure that they do not.

## Getting there by Underground

From the Chairman and Managing Director of London Underground Ltd  
Sir, Your editorial of April 16 says that policy-making is left with the various road and rail lobbies, or with their surrogates in the Department of Transport. The agencies for coordination are poor.

I hope you will agree that it is helpful that London Underground should prepare its own proposals for decision and I believe that coordination is continuing to improve.

In September last I initiated a major review of London Underground's organisation and structure and in particular an analysis of traffic demand and the strategy for meeting such a demand over the next 10 years. The analytical work done demonstrates that there is scope for increasing the capacity of the Underground through the provision of a more regular and frequent service on its central London lines.

However, with the forecast projections of substantial increases in demand over and above current levels, more radical solutions are required. The work we have been undertaking will provide an important input to the study into overcrowding problems on British Rail and London Underground lines, announced by the Secretary of State for Transport on March 25. London Underground is directly involved with British Rail (Network SouthEast), London Regional Transport and the Department of Transport, which augurs well for future coordination.

It is London Underground's intention to ensure "connections between surface and Underground links..." and delineate new routes and identify areas under-provided with service". Yours faithfully, TONY M. RIDLEY, Chairman and Managing Director of London Underground Ltd, 55 Broadway, SW1, April 18.

## Pressing a charge

From Mr Peter Temple-Morris, MP for Leominster (Conservative)  
Sir, Up to the vote last night on the "Masters amendment" the Secretary of State, Nicholas Ridley, has studiously maintained, as has the Government, that the community charge is a charge and not a tax.

On the Today programme (BBC Radio 4, April 19) in a four-minute interview he astonished his listeners by referring to the so-called charge as a tax, not once but eight times! Can this have anything to do with the House of Lords? Yours faithfully, PETER TEMPLE-MORRIS, House of Commons, April 19.

## Sales from galleries

From Sir Denis Mahon, FBA  
Sir, The wise commonsense of the letter from the Chairman of the National Galleries of Scotland (April 18), making clear the opposition of his board to any misguided policy involving sales from the galleries' holdings, is greatly to be welcomed.

I myself write as a collector who has for long envisaged, in principle, arranging for a number of his paintings to go to public museums in the United Kingdom, including the National Gallery of Scotland — paintings which, I hasten to add, the institutions concerned have indicated to me that they would like to have.

However, I now feel not merely discouraged, but positively antagonized, by the unwillingness of the Minister for the Arts to drop his proposed statutory provision permitting the sale of so-called "unsuitable" paintings from the three national picture galleries in London (that is the effect of it, contrary to what you imply in your leader of April 16). This provision is, of course, one to which the authorities responsible for the three institutions are most firmly, yet reasonably, opposed.

## Not so elementary

From Mr M. J. Oakley  
Sir, The real question which should be asked by Mr Gavin Ewart (April 19), is not whether Holmes knew anything about cricket, but whether Conan Doyle knew the first thing about railways.

In the first place, telegraph poles can be anything but 60 yards apart, if one checks any of the remaining locations where they have not been replaced by multicore cable at ground level.

Are we further to believe that Holmes, the master observer, failed totally to observe the quarter-mile posts required alongside all passenger railways by legislation of 1860, or that it never occurred to him to count the corresponding regular beat of the rail joints?

This is particularly unfortunate in that railways and cricket share the chain (22 yards) as a standard unit of measure. Metrication is encroaching, but in the meantime the correct method remains to count 22 of today's standard 60-ft rail lengths (the joints are still very

The 1987-88 costs of rent rebates and allowances and of mortgage interest tax relief, referred to in the letter from Professor Ruth Lister (April 16), were £2.6 billion and £4.75 billion respectively.

## Ethics and law on brain implants

From Dr R. B. Godwin-Austen  
Sir, The reports (April 18, 19) of fetal brain implant surgery have focused public attention on the ethical and legal considerations which have long exercised the minds of all those engaged in the research of treatment of patients with Parkinson's disease. It is to be hoped that out of public discussion of this matter will come clear ethical guidelines.

Whatever the age of the fetus it is protected by law while alive. If it dies immediately after birth or after abortion the Human Tissue Act 1961 allows the use of tissue from the dead fetus only with the consent of the relatives. The Sir John Peel advisory group in 1972 recommended that research use of pre-viable foetal material should only be carried out with the sanction of the local ethical committee and if there was no objection by either parent.

There is therefore a framework of law and code of practice to guide us in the present situation. But specific ethical guide lines might be now codified as follows:

1. The possibility of a brain tissue transplant must have no influence on the decision to abort a fetus, and no.
2. No influence on the way the abortion is conducted.
3. The mother must give her consent to the use of foetal material for brain transplantation.
4. There should be no relationship between the mother and the transplant recipient.
5. Donor material should be anonymous.
6. There must be no commercial benefit to the mother.

Yours etc, R. B. GODWIN-AUSTEN, Papplewick Hall, Papplewick, Nottinghamshire, April 19.

From Mrs Diana Brahmans  
Sir, In 1987 some 170,000 legal abortions were performed in the UK mainly for "social" reasons. Fetal remains are usually incinerated, but some are used for research. Abortion is accordingly a negative and depressing event and, in my view, the chance to give it a positive aspect by making use of such aborted foetal material to help sick patients is to be welcomed.

We use donated organs and tissue from dead human beings; why not also from aborted foetuses who were never, in any event, destined to gain full personhood? From the moment that the concept of abortion is accepted, the process is perfectly acceptable, proper and lawful in England — and should remain so.

The anti-abortion lobby takes a different view, and opposes the practice fiercely. For those who regard human life as beginning with conception (a legal concept enshrined in the Irish Constitution, incidentally) the donation of socially aborted foetal brain tissue even for the purposes of alleviat-

## Littering up the place

From the Director General of the Tidy Britain Group  
Sir, Robin Oakley's "Muck and Muddle" (Commentary, April 11) is welcome because any publicity highlighting the litter problem helps. But his lament that the Tidy Britain Group's struggles should be given a new Government impetus is astonishing.

Evidently Mr Oakley does not read the paper for which he writes. The excellent report on Wednesday, March 23, indicates that the Government is enabling the Tidy Britain Group to mount a series of some 16 projects in 1988-89 to establish the range of measures necessary to combat the litter problem and then institute a nationwide programme to achieve a "clean nineties", including, if necessary, new legislation.

Everyone seems to think he or she knows exactly what should be done, but the projects will constitute the necessary reconnaissance before we engage in the litter battle, the first stage of which is to raise public awareness. Sadly, it does not yet engage the attention of enough British people.

It was the new initiative which Mrs Thatcher launched at a press conference, highlighted by her now celebrated litter-pick in St James's Park. In describing that exercise as "ludicrous gimmickry" Mr Oakley, in common with many reporters, ignores two facts: the litter was spread out so that the Prime Minister could see the volume of one day's litter from the park, and such staged photo opportunities are often the only way to encourage the largely indifferent press and media to give coverage to the topic of litter and so help raise public consciousness. In that respect, of course, the St James's Park exercise was highly successful.

Yours faithfully, DENIS MAHON, 33 Cadogan Square, SW1, April 18.

From Mr K. H. Williams  
Sir, Mr Gavin Ewart would have made an excellent Scotland Yard inspector (quick and energetic but conventional — *A Study in Scarlet*) but must use his imagination before estimating how Sherlock Holmes estimated the speed of the train in the story "Silver Blaze".

What Holmes really did was to relate the 60-yard telegraph interval to time, not distance. The calculation then is indeed simple: 1,760 yards, rounded to 1,800 yards, is 30 posts per minute for 60 mph. Holmes merely had to count the posts, in this instance 26/27 for, say, one minute and multiply by two to give the approximate mph accurate to 2 per cent. Elementary, Mr Ewart?

Yours faithfully, K. H. WILLIAMS, Marshlands, Vicarage Lane, Waterford, Hertford, April 19.

## Matter of doubt for refusenik

From Mr A. S. Fraenkel and Mr L. A. Segel

Sir, On March 16 *The Times* published a letter from refusenik Professor Elias Finkel, from 1964 to 1986 the head of the computing laboratory in the Institute for Problems of Information Transmission in the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Professor Finkel related Kafkaesque details concerning an anonymous committee who found that "you are still informed". These were relayed to him on behalf of G. I. Marchuk, President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

We would like to share with your readers some additional information. A delegation of the US Academy of Sciences, headed by Dr William E. Gordon, was recently told by President Marchuk that he would ask to let the scientist-refusenik depart from the USSR. It was after this conversation that Marchuk's representative refused to transmit any hard facts concerning the report of the anonymous committee, and did not agree to deliver the report in writing.

Does the USSR Academy say one thing to the Americans and another to the refuseniks? Yours sincerely,

A. S. FRAENKEL, L. A. SEGEL, The Weizmann Institute of Science, Department of Mathematics, Rehovot, Israel, April 13.



## ON THIS DAY

APRIL 22, 1912

Bram Stoker (1847-1912) was manager and confidential secretary to Sir Henry Irving. While later generations remember him mainly as the creator of *Dracula*, his obituarist only mentions this in passing.

## OBITUARY.

### MR BRAM STOKER.

The death took place at 28 St George's Square, S.W., on Saturday evening, after a long illness, of Mr Bram Stoker, who for nearly 30 years was the intimate friend of Sir Henry Irving.

Bram, or baptismally Abraham Stoker was born in Dublin in 1847, his father Abraham being one of the officials in the Chief Secretary's Department in the Castle. He was educated at Trinity College, where he won honours in science, mathematics, oratory, history, and composition, besides distinguishing himself as a sportsman and debater. He was for some time in the Irish Civil Service as Inspector of Public Buildings, and was engaged in journalism as well, both as editor of an evening paper and as a dramatic critic. How long he would have been content to play these humble, though miscellaneous, parts it is impossible to say; but in 1876 or thereabouts he first came into contact with Henry Irving, and two years later he had permanently thrown in his lot with him as his manager and confidential secretary, and he remained with him until the end.

He shared Irving's counsel in all his enterprises; went about with him in the closest relationship of confidential friend and right-hand man; assisted at the many brilliant entertainments which his chief gave during the heyday of the Lyceum; met and was cordially treated by people of all sorts and conditions; and knew thoroughly the ins and outs of the financial side of the management of all professions. From 1878, the year in which Irving became lessee and manager of the Lyceum to 1905, when he died, the takings, as Stoker tells us, exceeded two millions. When the crash came, Stoker remained loyal to his friend's side, during years which would have been fatal to less energetic spirits by the extent to which they afforded to the dazzling triumphs which had preceded them. After Irving's death it was not unusual that Stoker should write his biography; and this task Mr Stoker performed with his customary enthusiasm. A fluent and flamboyant writer, with a manner and mannerisms which faithfully reflected the mind which moved the pen, Stoker managed to find time, amid much arduous and distracting work, to write a good deal. He was the master of a particularly lurid and creepy kind of fiction, represented by "Dracula" and other novels; he had also essayed musical comedy, and had of late years resumed his old connection with journalism. But his chief literary memorial will be his reminiscences of Irving, a book which with all its extravagances and shortcomings — Mr Stoker was no very acute critic of his chief as an actor — cannot but remain a valuable record of the workings of genius as they appeared to his devoted associate and admirer.

Mr Bram Stoker married Florence Anne Lemon, daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Balcombe, who survives him with one son, Noel Thornley.

## To make a dog laugh

From Mrs Margaret de Bunsen  
Sir, Miss Preuss's letter (April 18) reminds me of a remarkable feat by a neighbour of mine who, from the brushings and combings of her enormous black dog, spun enough wool to knit herself a pair of gloves — which she proudly wore to the local Women's Institute's handicraft exhibition! Yours faithfully, MARGARET DE BUNSEN, 1 Nelson Cottages, Back Street, Reepham, Norwich, April 19.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
April 21: Today is the sixtieth anniversary of the Birthday of The Queen.

His Excellency Mr Abdul Aziz Mahmood was received in audience by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Prince of Wales, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of The Queen, and presented his Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of Singapore in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty and His Royal Highnesses: Mrs Mary Soe-Cheng (Counsellor), Mrs Violet Loo Mui Fung (First Secretary), Mr Ramakrishna Nithianandam (Second Secretary) and Mr Charles Joseph Peter (Third Secretary).

Mrs Aziz had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and The Prince of Wales.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and His Royal Highnesses, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were present.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this morning attended the launch of the publication "Prospects for Africa" at the Royal Society of Arts, London SW1.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Equine Rehabilitation Centre at Snettendon and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Norfolk (Mr Timothy Colman).

The Princess Royal, President, the British Olympic Association, later attended a reception in Norwich Castle Museum Rooms, Norwich given by the local branch of the British Olympic Appeal.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Mrs Charles Ritchie, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
April 21: Captain Niall Hall today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother when Her Majesty, on behalf of The Queen, invested him with the insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Concert to mark the 250th Anniversary of the Royal Society of Musicians at Great Britain in St George's Church, Hanover Square.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
April 21: The Princess of Wales, Patron, the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, this evening attended a concert in aid of the charity at St Nicholas Church, Newbury, Berkshire.

Viscountess Campden and Commander Richard Aylard, RN, were in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
April 21: The Duke of Gloucester this morning opened the new factory of Keunen Bros Limited, Irthlingborough, Northampton, and in the afternoon, as President of the Peterborough Cathedral Preservation Trust, visited Peterborough Cathedral, Cambridgeshire.

His Royal Highness, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at The Coronary Prevention Group's "Hearts and Flowers Ball" at Hurlingham Club, London SW4.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

**YORK HOUSE**  
ST JAMES'S PALACE  
April 21: The Duchess of Kent returned to Royal Air Force Northolt this evening following a visit to Northern Ireland.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Sarah Partridge.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Alexander Lieven, BBC Controller European Services 1972-79, will be held at St Mary-le-Strand at 11.30 am on Thursday, May 5, 1988.

## School announcements

**Caterham School**  
Summer Term began on April 19. J.E. Orring continues as senior prefect. R.L.M. Mauger becomes captain of cricket. Men for All Seasons will be performed on July 6, 7 and 8. Old Caterhamians' day is on July 2. The Preparatory School speech day is on July 3 and the chief guest will be the Rev J.C.A. Barrett, and the main school speech day is on July 9 and the chief guest will be Mr D.A. Emms. Term ends on July 12.

**Malvern Girls' College**  
Summer Term began on April 18. Half Term is from May 27 to 31. Sports day and concert will be on June 30. Commemoration is on July 1 when the Preacher will be the Bishop of Wolverhampton, the Right Rev Christopher Mayfield, and Sir Greville Spratt, Lord Mayor of London, will be the guest speaker and will distribute the prizes. Term ends July 2.

**Millfield Senior School**  
Summer Term begins Monday, April 25, and ends with parents' day on July 9; half-term is from May 27 to June 1. The summer concert will be on Wednesday, May 11, in the Stride Theatre; the Motet Choir perform at Montacute House on May 17. The sixth form challenge to industry conference will be held on May 19; Lord Donoughue and the Hon Robert Boswell, MP, visit the Political Society on May 7 and 13, respectively. The Old Millfieldians' cricket match is on Sunday July 3.

Twenty-five major academic awards for pupils aged 14+ and approximately 35 sixth form bursaries will be offered to pupils admitted in September 1989. Awards for the sixth form will be made on the basis of

GCSE performance and parents applying for their son's or daughter's entry are invited to view the school during the coming summer and autumn terms.

**Rydal School**  
Summer Term at Rydal School began on Monday, April 18. Stephen Willis continues as senior prefect and Alyson King as head girl. Professor Sir Geoffrey Elton (OR) will address the Historical Society on May 20. The chief guest at speech day on May 27 will be Professor E. Sunderland, Principal of University College, Bangor. The term will end on July 1, with the thanksgiving service when the Rev Dr J. Newton will be the preacher, and the summer ball.

**Wilton School**  
Trinity Term started on April 14 and finishes on July 22 when the CCF camps at Longmoor. Miss Sara Wall has been appointed head of economics and business studies. P.M. Bray is captain of school; J.D. Best and J.S. Walker are his deputies. S.M. Elliott is captain of cricket; L.I. Herrett is captain of swimming and water polo. Sports day is June 29, expedition day July 20 while the Junior Play is on July 6 and 7. A new computer room has been added to the school while the Bowled Room is to be completed in September, will greatly improve the Sixth Form facilities.

**Woodhouse Grove School**  
Term begins today at Woodhouse Grove School with 555 pupils in the senior school. Friday is on June 18 when the guest speaker will be Sir Giles Shaw, MP. Old Grovians' day is on July 2 and term ends on July 8.

### Today's royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will open the East Wing of the Princess Christian Homes of the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops at Knaphill, Surrey, at 3.30. Prince Edward will attend a gala evening at the Oast Theatre, Tonbridge, for the formal opening of a new extension and a performance of *Children of a Lesser God* by Mark Medoff at 7.15.

The Duchess of Kent, patron, will attend the final award of the Kathleen Ferrier Scholarship at Wigmore Hall at 1.25.

### Service dinners

RNRV Officers' Association Captain W.G. Smith, President of the RNRV Officers' Association, presided at a dinner held last night at the Naval Club to mark the birthday of their patron, The Queen, and St George's Day. Sir Curtis Keeble also spoke.

The Royal Green Jackets General Sir James Glover presided at the annual dinner of The Royal Green Jackets Officers' Club held last night at the London Club, Davies Street.

Honourable Artillery Company General Sir Richard Trant presided at the annual St George's Day dinner of the Honourable Artillery Company held last night at Armoury House. Mr Enoch Powell, General Sir Thomas Morony and Major J.N. Phipson also spoke.

### Appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr D. H. B. Chesshyre, Chester Herald of Arms, to be Secretary of the Order of the Garter, in succession to Sir Walter Verco, Surrey Herald of Arms Extraordinary, who has resigned. Mr T. G. Pontius and Mr J. P. Camp to be Deputy Judge Advocates.

### Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Henry Fielding, novelist, Sharnham Park, Somerset, 1707; Immanuel Kant, philosopher, Königsberg, Germany, 1724; James Graham, poet, Glasgow, 1765; Phil May, cartoonist, Witley, Yorkshire, 1864; Lenin, Ulyanovsk, 1870; Sergei Prokofiev, composer, Sontsovka, Ukraine, 1891; Kathleen Ferrier, contralto singer, Higher Walton, Lancashire, 1912.

DEATHS: John Tradescant, traveller and gardener, London, 1622; James Hargreaves, inventor of the spinning jenny, Nottingham, 1788; John Crome, landscape painter, Norwich, 1821; Thomas Rowlandson, caricaturist, London, 1827; Richard Trevithick, pioneer of the locomotive engine, Dartford, 1833; Henry Campbell-Bannerman, prime minister 1905-08, London 1908; Roy Campbell, poet, Setubal, Portugal, 1957.

Dr Robin Thorne, who will head the new office, says that until now the commission has been able to record and monitor northern buildings from London. But the sheer volume of buildings threatened by demolition or alteration has reached the scale that has been witnessed in the South for the past 10 years.

Although most endangered buildings are still private residences, many other kinds are at risk from the decline of traditional industries, the redevelopment of town centres, and the increasing number of conversions of churches, chapels, warehouses and mills to new uses.

## Dinners

**London School of Economics and Political Science**  
The Queen of Denmark, former student and honorary fellow of the London School of Economics and Political Science, accompanied by Queen Anne-Marie of the Hellenes, was the guest of honour at a dinner given last night at the Barbican Centre for the LSE concert for which tickets were sold in aid of the school's appeal for support for its new student residence at Butler's Wharf, SE1. Sir John Sparrow, acting Chairman of the LSE Council of Governors, presided.

Gray's Inn The Grand Duke of Luxembourg attended a dinner in hall given by the Treasurer of Gray's Inn, Sir Gordon Stynn, and the Masters of the Bench last night, being the Grand Day of the Easter Term. Among those present were:

Lord Greville, Lord Eardley, Lord Maltby, Baroness Young, Sir Geoffrey Agnew, Frederick Wargye, President Sir Alfred Phipps, Sir Kirby Lamb, Mrs A. Humble, MP, and Mr S. Sainsbury.

**Bowyer's Company**  
Mr J.R. Bickford Smith, Master of the Bowyer's Company, assisted by Mr Richard Williams, Renter Warden, presided at a dinner held last night at Tallows Chandlers' Hall, Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Robin de Wilde also spoke.

**All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club**  
Mr R.E.H. Haddingham, Chairman of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Institute of Directors. Sir Patrick Neill, QC, was the guest of honour and Lord Aberdeen also spoke.

**Institution of Civil Engineers**  
Mr H.W.A. Francis, President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Hilton International hotel, London. Mr Malcolm Riddell, QC, MP, and Lord Selkirk also spoke. Among those present were:

Lord Greville, Lord Eardley, Lord Maltby, Baroness Young, Sir Geoffrey Agnew, Frederick Wargye, President Sir Alfred Phipps, Sir Kirby Lamb, Mrs A. Humble, MP, and Mr S. Sainsbury.

**Carmen's Company**  
Alderman Sir Christopher Leaver, Master of the Carmen's Company, assisted by Major D.R. Baker, Senior Warden, and Mr G.A. Long, Junior Warden, presided at a dinner held last night at Stationers' Hall in honour of the Royal Corps of Transport. The Master, Major-General P.H. Benson and Major-General D.B.H. Colley were the speakers. Colonels Commandant, RCT, the Director-General of Transport and Movements and other senior Corps officers were the guests.

**Esso UK**  
On the occasion of their centenary, Esso UK plc held a dinner last night at the Banqueting House, Whitehall. Sir Archibald Forster, chairman and chief executive, presided and the principal guests were Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, and Mr Lawrence G. Rawl, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Exxon Corporation.

## THE BYSSON MASTERPIECES

The Sense of Smell, by Michael Sweets (1618-1664): The artist is first documented in Rome in 1646, and died on the island of Goa in the East Indies, a lay member of a French order of missionaries, in 1664.

Sweets's paintings are characterized by an air of mystery that accords well with the fragmentary and enigmatic information we possess about his life. Some critics have argued that this painting represents a young man, although both the turban and the billowing sleeves are more easily associated with a woman.

In her elegantly foreshortened right hand she holds a small bouquet of brightly coloured flowers which have given rise to the plausible suggestion that the figure symbolizes the Sense of Smell. It has further been assumed that it must originally have belonged to a series of canvases representing the five senses.

The painting is on show in the Thyssen-Bornemisze Collection, sponsored by The Times, at the Royal Academy until June 12.



## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr M.T.W. Blunsford and Miss P.J. Hardman**  
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Major William Blunsford, of Semley Stud, Sharnham, Dorset, and Mrs John Jarrod, of Sherborne, Dorset, and Philippe, daughter of Mr and Mrs Adrian Hardman, of Armsworth House, Alresford, Hampshire.

**Mr G.M. Hay and Miss K.E. Waller**  
The engagement is announced between Gary Michael, younger son of Mrs John Sheppard, of Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, and Mr M.J.P. Hay, and Katharine Emma, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs William Waller, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

**Mr J.V. Hulme and Miss A.J. Sherratt**  
The engagement is announced between John, youngest son of Mr and Mrs F.P. Hulme, of Newcastle, Staffordshire, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.G. Sherratt, also of Newcastle, Staffordshire.

**Mr R.W.C. Jarvis and Miss J.E. Richings**  
The engagement is announced between Roy, only son of Mr Betty Jarvis, of Braintree, Devon, and Juliet Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Leslie Richings, of Sandstead, Surrey.

**Mr M.J. Kinton and Miss C.R. Chavasse**  
The engagement is announced between Michael James, son of Mr and Mrs Tom Kinton, of Almodon, West Sussex, and Camilla Rose, eldest daughter of the late Judge Michael Chavasse, QC, and of Mrs Chavasse, of Cheltenham, Kent.

**Mr C.R.T. Laws and Mrs P.H. Shaw**  
The engagement is announced between Charles Laws, of Jerome House, Churchill, Bristol, and Tricia Shaw, of Lower Downside House, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

**Mr T.A.C. Leech and Miss J.E. McKendrick**  
The engagement is announced between Thomas Alexander Crispin, only son of Professor and Mrs G.N. Leech, of The Old Manor, Mill Broom, Kirby Lonsdale, and Jane Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H.F. McKendrick, of De Parys Avenue, Bedford.

**Mr F.J. Smith and Miss J.W. Wood**  
The engagement is announced between Fraser, elder son of Mr and Mrs William Smith, of Bedford, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ernest Wood, of Sheriff Hutton, Yorkshire.

**Mr N. Squire and Miss S.M. Norworthy**  
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs G. Squire, of Strensall, Yorkshire, and Sarah Michelle, daughter of Mr M. Norworthy, of Guildford, Surrey, and Mrs J. Fletcher, of Reigate, Surrey.

### York base for heritage group

The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England has set up a new branch in York because of increasing concern about the threat to historic buildings in the North. Dr Robin Thorne, who will head the new office, says that until now the commission has been able to record and monitor northern buildings from London. But the sheer volume of buildings threatened by demolition or alteration has reached the scale that has been witnessed in the South for the past 10 years.

**Mr T.J. Montague-Johnstone and Miss L.B. Carris**  
The engagement is announced between Torquil, son of Mr Roy Montague-Johnstone, and Barbara Montague-Johnstone, of London, and Katie, daughter of Mr and Mrs I.R.H. Curtis, of Warcham, Dorset.

**Mr A.A. Underwood and Miss C.A. Morin**  
The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr and Mrs Barry Underwood, of Kent Town, Brighton, Sussex, and Carol, daughter of Mr M.F. Morin, of San Jose, California, United States.

**Mr R.G.D. Maunsell and Mrs N. Stock**  
The marriage took place quietly in Cambridge, on Wednesday, April 13, between Mr Robin Guy Debonnaire Maunsell and Mrs Nicola Stock (née Scott). Their address will be 94 Mill End Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge, CB1 4JR.

**Mr C.D. Newell and Miss A.M. Sampson**  
The marriage took place on Sunday, April 17, 1988, at St Andrew's Church, Clewer, Windsor, between Mr Christopher Newell and Miss Anne Sampson. The Rev Denis Shaw officiated.

**Mr J.G. Style and Miss C. Manton Sains**  
The marriage took place on April 9, 1988, at Reus, of Mr John Glenmore Style and Miss Conchi Muñoz Sainz. Their address will be Avda Paises Catalanes 77, Esc.B, Anico 10, Reus, Tarragona, Spain.

**Dr P.J.T. Wiseman and Dr N.M.G. Debbas**  
The marriage took place on April 21, 1988, at Fernes, Voltaire, France, between Dr Paul Wiseman, son of Mr David and Dr Hazel Wiseman, of Itherton, Sussex, and Dr Nadia Debbas, eldest daughter of Mrs Betty Tacka-Debbas, of Geneva, Switzerland, and Mr Michel Debbas, of Rome, Italy.

**Mr L. Abse, former MP, 71: Lord Aireide, 73: Sir Michael Atiyah, mathematician, 59; Mr Christopher Ball, Warden, Keble College, Oxford, 53; Mr Alan Bond, company chairman and yachtsman, 50; Mr Peter Bowring, former chairman, C.T. Bowring, 65; Mr Yvette Chauviré, ballerina assoluta, 71; Mr George Cole, actor, 63; Mr Alan Dukes, leader, Fine Gael Party, 43; Dr Eric Feenby, composer, 82; Mr Lloyd Hougham, boxer, 28; Mr Ronald Hynd, choreographer, 57; Sir Yehudi Menuhin, OM, violinist, 72; Sir Sidney Nolan, OM, artist, 71; the Earl of Oxford and Asquith, 72; Miss Margaret Perren, forensic scientist, 60; Viscount Portman, 54; Professor Sir Eric Sreen, physician, 78; Miss Meryl Streep, actress, 39; Mr D.M. Summerhall, Head Master, Westminster School, 51; Sir Robert Wade-Gery, diplomat, 59.**

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## OBITUARY

### H. L. BEALES

#### Radical historian of the Old School

H.L. Beales who died on April 19 at the age of 99, was the last of the pre-war "great generation" at the London School of Economics and an able teacher, mentor and scholar, although his publications were sadly few.

Hugh Lancelot Beales was born at Sedburgh on February 18, 1889, the son of a radically-minded Methodist minister. He went to Kingswood School and then read medieval history at Manchester.

After serving in the infantry in the First World War, he became a lecturer in economic history at Sheffield University, working mainly in the extra-mural department. He was a life-long supporter of the Workers' Educational Association, and adult education in its various forms remained his primary concern.

One of his characteristic views was that working people were better able to grasp the complexities of the Industrial Revolution and its effects than most students who came up to university young and inexperienced.

In 1926 he arrived at the LSE, where he lectured until he retired in 1954. He was a

famous lecturer with a large following. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of nineteenth-century economic and social themes and his lectures wandered widely through time and space.

They were not highly structured, indeed he often digressed and even regressed so that a lecture on 1832 would end up in 1648. He was brilliantly speculative and imaginative. He demonstrated relations between factors normally kept well apart, he stimulated the imagination of students and drove them by example to read original documents and contemporary books.

His writings were slim. There were three or four important scholarly articles in the *Economic History Review* and elsewhere. His *Industrial Revolution of 1929* was highly original, but nonetheless written for extra-mural audiences, not fellow scholars as was his *Early English Socialists of 1932*. Yet some seriously say that their popular influence was almost as great as his colleague R. H. Tawney's *Equality and The Acquisitive Society*.

Like Tawney, he was a

preacher, but preached a secular, humanist socialism, not Christian socialism. His own remarkable collection of nineteenth-century books and pamphlets was brought from barrows in Farringdon Road during lunchtime forays before the Second World War.

The LSE made him an Honorary Fellow in 1971 and his Economic History Department gave a reception in his honour on his ninetieth birthday.

His interest in teaching a wider audience caused him to broadcast for the BBC from Savoy Hill days onwards. Most importantly, Allen Lane via Krishna Menon, brought him in as adviser to Penguin Books, then in their infancy. He played an important part in the launching of non-fiction Pelicans, assisted by W. A. Williams and Lancelot Hogben, both of whom he introduced.

Later, he acted as adviser to the Thomson Organisation's book operation, Sir Gordon Brunton having been yet another of his students.

He is survived by two sons and a daughter.

### REAR-ADMIRAL R. L. FISHER

Rear-Admiral R. L. Fisher, CB, DSO, OBE, DFC, who died on April 19, at the age of 84, had a brisk war in destroyers, participating in many notable naval actions. He had one ship sunk under him at Dunkirk, and commanded a flotilla during the Battle of the North Cape, in which Admiral Fraser's force finally sank the German commerce raider, *Scharnhorst*.

Fisher was commanding the destroyer *Wakeful* in May 1940, when the Navy was straining every resource to evacuate the British Expeditionary Force from the Dunkirk beaches. It was perilous work for the British ships which had to come close inshore, often lying stationary and vulnerable to fierce air attacks, as well as lightning raids from E-boats.

*Wakeful* had already performed prodigious feats under heavy fire, and was cruising close offshore, when two parallel torpedo tracks were seen about 150 feet apart off the starboard bow. Behind them an E-boat was spotted, closing in.

In what little time remained to him, Fisher ordered maximum starboard wheel to try

and slip between the torpedoes. But although he was successful in evading the first one, the second struck *Wakeful* just forward of her boiler room. There was a massive explosion; the ship broke in two, and both halves sank within fifteen seconds, with heavy loss of life.

Fisher, who was among the thirty survivors, was awarded the DSO for his handling of the ship, during the evacuation.

In the following year Fisher was in the thick of the action again, this time in the Mediterranean where he commanded the destroyer *Orion*, first during the Battle of Cape Matapan, and later in the year, in the operations to evacuate British troops from Greece. The latter task, performed under heavy air attacks, earned him the OBE.

He continued active, getting one mention in dispatches for gallantry as commander of HMS *Woodwick*, while escorting Malta convoys, and another as commander of HMS *Hera*, during the Battle of Sirte.

Fisher's next opportunity for action was 1943. Ever since her escape from Brest,

the previous year, the powerful German battleship *Scharnhorst* had been a menace to the Arctic convoys; a determined attempt was made to bring her to bay. The 36th destroyer Division, commanded by Fisher, in HMS *Muskeeter*, was among powerful naval forces sent to lure her to her doom, in the Barents Sea.

In a cat and mouse game which took place in December 1943 *Scharnhorst* was eventually trapped under the guns of the battleship *Duke of York*, having also been assailed by Fisher's destroyers. Of four torpedoes fired by *Muskeeter*, three were seen to hit *Scharnhorst*.

Fisher was awarded the DSC for his part in this action, which ended the surface raiding threat to the Russian convoys route.

Among Fisher's post-war appointments were the command of the aircraft carrier *Indefatigable*, and he ended his Naval career as Flag Officer, Ground Training in Home Air Command.

He married, in 1934, Ursula Carver, of Torquay. They had five daughters.

### GINETTE SPANIER

GINETTE SPANIER, an arbiter of fashion and confidante of Le Tout Paris for many years, died on April 18. She was 84.

As directress of the House of Balmain, she dressed and won favour among the most beautiful and glittering women of her time — Katherine Hepburn, Marlene Dietrich, Sophia Loren and Queen Sirikit of Thailand.

Under her sharp scrutiny, Balmain prepared the wedding trousseau for Queen Margaretha of Denmark and it was largely due to her influence that he created his "Jolie Madame" look, a style for *Jemmes raffines*.

She was a friend of Noël Coward, and in a letter to Cocteau, Brian Howard described her as having "the sweetness of a dove and the eyes and claws of an eagle".

Her life in Paris high society was in sharp contrast to the great hardship she suffered during the occupation of France. She and her husband, Dr Paul-Emile Siedmann, were compelled to retire to the Midi where as Jews they lived under false papers, sometimes only a step ahead of the Gestapo and the Milice.

Another serious side of her life came when she helped set up the international team of interpreters for the Nuremberg war crimes tribunal.

Spanier was born in Paris in 1904, the daughter of a jeweller and during the First World War the family settled in London, where she was educated at Fingal School. In 1929 she joined the sales staff of Fortnum and Mason and the future Duchess of Windsor was later among her clients.

She subsequently moved back to Paris where she was sales manager with Bemberg, and she married in 1939.

After the Liberation, Balmain, the bright new star of *haute couture*, persuaded her to create and animate his salon and this fruitful association lasted until 1976.

Widowed, she came back to live in Chelsea. She produced three volumes of memoirs, the last, *The Long Road to Freedom*, being published in 1976.



When he stepped down as chairman of Ford in 1956, Smith had spent 52 years in the motor car industry. He had started as an apprentice Humber Limited, Coventry, and graduated as a jig and tool designer. He was appointed manager for the distribution of Ford cars in Bengal, Burma and Assam in 1914, based in Calcutta, when cars were a rare enough sight in those parts.

Alexander Rowland Smith was born in Gillingham, Kent, and educated at the Mathematical School.

He was made managing director in 1941, and in 1942, turned over to war production, supplied the armed services with nearly 350,000 vehicles, including Bren gun carriers.

In 1941 he was a member of the Ministry of Aircraft Production's mission to the United States, aiming at getting the Americans to do more for Britain.

He was knighted in 1944, and became chairman of Ford in Britain in 1950.

His wife, Janet, died in 1972. He leaves one son and one daughter.

### EVA NOVAK

Eva Novak, who appeared opposite cowboy star, Tom Mix, and several other silent picture stars, has died at the age of 90, in hospital in the Los Angeles suburb of Woodland Hills.







## THE ARTS

## TELEVISION

## Various women

Wearing little more than a red dress, dark stockings and smart black slings, Clare Short MP gave Robert Kilroy-Gibb the rough edge of her tongue during the *Kilroy* (BBC1) debate on Page-Three girls.

"You used to be a better man than this, Bob," she growled as he played the street-Arab by trying to make her look at provocative photographs. "I'm not playing this game with you. I'm running this, not you," snapped her sometime parliamentary colleague.

Bel Mooney, the author of a recent novel about pornography, had no such qualms. Yes, she would ban this, no she would not ban that. Then she spoilt it — to the vocal delight of a gaggle of current and aspirant "glamour" models — by confusing the names of Linda Lesardi and Linda Lovelace.

Just before the curtain, Mooney took a deep breath and said: "I think we've reached a point in this society..." And one took a shallow breath and switched off, content to see the assembled parties more entrenched in their opinions than ever.

*Women in Black* (BBC2) was a classic 40 Minutes on the condition of widowhood, in which three widely differing subjects were used to suggest the common denominators of this vicissitude. The first widow's husband died of cancer; the second was bereaved by a grotesque colliery accident; the last is the widow of Gordon Hamilton-Fairley, who was blown up by a terrorist bomb in 1975.

What obviously connected these three was the solidity of the relationship which death tore down, but in organizing its profiles the way it did — from the youngest and most recently bereaved to the oldest and most experienced — the programme tacitly hinted that the passage of years may bring a mellowing of grief.

One can only guess at this intention: the presence of absence is not to be rendered in a documentary without extreme artificiality.

Martin Cropper

John Russell Taylor on a revolutionary show by a 19th century master opening in London today

## Surprising Cézanne

## GALLERY

Cézanne: The Early Years  
Royal Academy of Arts

Despite the instructions of a long line of commentators, from Roger Fry on, there is still a surprising number of people around who do not care for Cézanne.

Yes, of course we all know how important he was in the birth of Cubism, and so as a pointer along the highway of modern art. But it is still perfectly possible to find his characteristic colour range, dictated by his native Provence, curiously arid and unappealing, or to feel that there is often something rather distant and inhuman about his later paintings, as though he is much more fascinated by the geometry he can construct out of naked bodies, than by the warm flesh and the life within it.

For anyone who feels that way, the new show at the Royal Academy, *Cézanne: The Early Years* (until August 21) will be a revelation. It ends with Cézanne at the age of 33, on the threshold of his mature style. It also ends with a famous self-portrait, that of 1872, which shows him as bald, bearded and regarding the spectator with an expression somewhat melancholy perhaps, but certainly defensive and mistrustful.

It is hard to believe that this is the same man, painted by the same hand, as the self-portrait at the start of the show, which dates from just 10 years earlier. It is true that the expression is, even then, none too friendly, but it is as though he has turned from an angry young man into a disillusioned old man in barely a decade.

The Cézanne in his early twenties is clearly a man of strong passions, and the paintings he was to produce in the next 10 years bear unarguable witness to that. They are generally said, in Cézanne criticism, to be very awkward and technically maladroit: he was supposedly a slow and late



Deliberated, slightly stiff pattern-making: "Young Girl at the Piano - Overture to Tannhäuser" c.1869-70, from the show at the Royal Academy

developer. But that is not at all the impression that one receives from seeing so many of the early works gathered together and isolated, apparently for the first time on this scale.

Indeed, the very first works shown, the series of decorative panels of the seasons he did for the grand salon of his father's house in 1860-62, are if anything too smooth and accomplished, looking suspiciously like something Rex Whistler or Albert Rutherston might have turned out for a millionaire home in the Thirties. Also, their colours are unexpectedly high-pitched.

The smoothness proves not to be otherwise characteristic of early Cézanne, but the vibrant colour does. One could confidently defy anybody, unexpectedly face-to-face with a painting like "The

Feast" (alternatively known as "The Orgy") of c.1870, to guess that it was by Cézanne of all people: its brilliant colour and loose, writhing composition could suggest almost anyone but he.

Almost anyone 20th century, that is, for this Cézanne emerges as an amazingly modern figure. But of course, you say, we are very used to regarding Cézanne as the precursor of modernism. Not this kind of modernism, however: it is the modernism of the expressionists, the modernism of, say, Sou- taine or Rouault.

Among Cézanne's own contemporaries one cannot compare him with any of the "official" artists, or even the official rebels, but must look instead to marginal figures like Daubigny, and occasionally Guys. It is almost as though he defiantly took up this "marginal"

attitude himself, wilfully picking subjects erotic to the verge of pornography, or adding an extra level of shock to the already-shocking subjects of Manet such as "Olympia" or the "Déjeuner sur l'Herbe".

But all through the show it is quite clear that this is a painter who knows exactly what he is doing. If the figures in "The Temptation of Saint Anthony" or "The Robbers and the Ass" or his "Pastoral" self-portrait, surrounded by nudes in some Wagnerian Venusberg, are distorted, it is with the force of his intense and glowing vision of life.

We are constantly aware of the painter as young Romantic. The slightly stiff pattern-making of "Young Girl at the Piano: Overture to Tannhäuser" is equally deliberate, and there is nothing

accidental either about the way that, in some of the portraits from this period, the paint is applied heavily, with a palette knife, to create a feeling of almost painful directness and immediacy.

It seems unlikely to hail a show of paintings done more than a century ago as revolutionary, but that this show surely is. It will certainly revolutionize our attitudes to Cézanne, if only because it presents a Cézanne much more obviously to the taste of the Age of Aquarius than the cool calculator of his mature years could ever be.

And this time Britain is not left out of the international circuit: the show goes on the Musée d'Orsay in Washington. It is nice to be able to say, for once, if you saw it first, you saw it here.

## JAZZ

## Blues in the night

James Blood Ulmer  
Pied Bull, Islington

The guitarist James Blood Ulmer has always been one of the music world's more protean figures, with early influences covering blues and R'n'B as much as jazz. He is the pioneer of the impenetrable "harmonic" but also a more down-to-earth bluesman.

His album *Tales Of Captain Black* — recorded with Ornette Coleman — has baffled and entranced listeners in equal measure for the best part of 10 years. His live appearances have been just as unpredictable.

Launching a three-date Britain tour, Ulmer seemed determined to maintain his cult status, not arriving at the venue until shortly before 10 o'clock, almost an hour after the advertised start of the show. The reason for the delay, it transpired, was religious. Ulmer and his bass player Jamaaladeen Tacuma are, apparently, Muslims, since we are now in Ramadan they did not feel free to set off from their hotel until after sunset.

With so little time to prepare, it was obviously going to be a frantic evening. As the drummer Calvin Weston led us into "Lady Blue", Ulmer's guitar was lost somewhere deep down in the sound mix. Tacuma's bass was hardly any more distinct, even on the more conventional blues routines.

For the first set Ulmer rarely strayed from understated blues material, with the occasional burst of vocals. Strangely, the sound quality grew even worse, and after 40 minutes in an oppressively steamy hall it was clear that critical listening would be impossible.

The audience would have been well advised to stay at home to listen to last year's offering, *America - Do You Remember The Love?*, on which Ulmer, Bill Laswell and Ronald Shannon Jackson explore the kind of intelligent jazz-rock which could easily have found a niche in late-night Radio One.

Clive Davis

Holly Hill on a contentious, flawed Broadway production of "the Scottish Play"

## Double, double toil and trouble

## THEATRE

Macbeth  
Mark Hellinger,  
New York

The story of the Broadway production of *Macbeth* is almost as bloody as Shakespeare's play. En route to New York it lost two directors, one set and one lighting designer, four Macduffs and additional cast members, and staggered through 26 cases of flu and assorted injuries. After this much-publicized ordeal, everyone is sick of being reminded of the curse of "the Scottish Play".

Starring Christopher Plummer and Glenda Jackson, this *Macbeth* is neither cursed nor blessed. Most missed is a sense of concentrated focus and tone throughout the play, but how could it be otherwise with three directors? Kenneth Frankel is given programme credit for "original direction", Zoë Caldwell for "additional direction" and, apparently at his own request, Robin Phillips is not mentioned as the filler in this sandwich.

On Daphne Dare's handsome monolithic set in weathered grey wood, with Patricia Zipporri's attractive 11th century costumes, this directorial triumvirate has variously come up with some stunning effects. These include Banquo's murder done in darkness, followed instantly by lights up on the royal banquet in full revel. The staging for the appearance of Banquo's ghost may surprise even those who know the play well.

The director's debits encompass miking the witches, which makes



Dead only in spirit: Glenda Jackson offers intensity of emotion but absence of self while sleepwalking

them resemble media freaks rather than supernatural creatures, and such casting errors as a Duncan and Malcolm so dull that one sympathizes with Macbeth's desire to kill them.

Except when she is dissembling in public, Glenda Jackson's Lady Macbeth is a formidable but unimaginative woman whose embrace of evil, together with alarm at its consequences, are clear and absolute.

It is a memorable performance, from Miss Jackson's voiceless sigh of resolution before summoning evil spirits, through her sinking to the floor with the psychological weight of the bloody daggers, to the sleepwalking scene with its combined intensity of emotion and absence of self. It is clear Lady

Macbeth has already died in spirit. Christopher Plummer has a sizeable talent, but in spite of numerous opportunities, he has never reached the front rank of stage actors. A mannerism that has hardened with age has held him back with a joyless half-smile and wary eyes, he appears to look upon the world with a smirk, as if it were an off-colour joke.

His Macbeth is more an illustration of the banality of evil than the tragedy of the man of stature

destroyed by ambition. He is best once he is crowned, when he gives orders for Banquo's murder and for battle with effortless command, or suggests a growing madness from the speech about Banquo's seed, and feelingly laments his wife's death.

In the performance, however, one never meets the good man who is corrupted. For this and the other reasons cited, this British-Canadian-American *Macbeth* is a pretty good show, but no win.

## Stripped of glamour

Privates on Parade  
Birmingham Repertory

Peter Nichols is on record as disliking the emphasis on glamour in the Aldwych production of his 1977 hit, and appears to have set to work on revisions almost from the start. This new production, on Birmingham's cavernous stage, draws on material from the Faber and Samuel French editions (both 1977) as well as the Methuen edition of the collected plays (1987); and there are changes even from this latest text.

Gone is the Andrews Sisters parody of the pistol-packing deputy of Oklahoma, though any memory of this in the original has faded. The point made by the words is of no great importance.

The play took its origin in Nichols's experience, just after the War, touring Malaysia as a member of an Ensa concert party. Fellow performers included Stanley Baxter and Kenneth Williams and, on that amazing foundation of battledress and high camp in foreign parts, Nichols built one of his characteristic structures of story, song and mordant comedy.

The misadventures of a concert party troupe, sent upcountry by a crack-brained major into jungle

seething with Communist insurgents, is coupled with that of a callow youth's loss of sexual and ethical virginity. It is far more, however, than *Virgin Soldiers* meet *Love and War*, because through his parodies of popular songs of the period, and even more their placing after scenes of carnage and folly, Nichols mounts an attack on the old Imperial and Church Parade mystique that is blistering while "veterans". It is a high-wire act: Nichols has always been a "lancer".

This definitive version replaces the young-love ending with the quasi-heroic act of the outrageously camp, fundamentally decent captain Terri Dennis, in marrying the pregnant Eurasian girl after she is abandoned by her lover. It is hard to understand how the alternative could ever have been preferred. Along with this, the whole show (director Derek Nichols) is sower and delightfully less glam.

These changes are all to the good, but the opportunity to judge them finally must await less grating performances than those surrounding Paul Greenwood's Terri. Eric Allen's batty Major is an honourable exception.

Jeremy Kingston

## Partners again

Northern Ballet  
Theatre  
Sadler's Wells

Northern Ballet Theatre opened its two week season at Sadler's Wells on Tuesday with the programme which John Percival reviewed from Manchester last November. But, shorn of the *Aurora's* Wedding divertissement, it makes a rather insubstantial evening.

The principal item on the bill is *A Simple Man*, Gillian Lynne's ballet about the life and work of L.S. Lowry. I suspect that to admit indifference to Lowry in Manchester is equivalent to advocating more battery hens or concreting over the national parks, but honesty forces me to confess that I find little to admire in Lowry's paintings. And I am afraid much the same goes for Miss Lynne's ballet, apart from the central performances of Christopher Gable and Lynn Seymour as the painter and his mother.

The most glamorous male star the Royal Ballet ever produced, Gable is now artistic director of Northern Ballet, and it is a real pleasure to see him back on stage renewing his partnership with Seymour. He gives a rounded portrait of the eccentric, mother-obsessed painter, which just about

## DANCE

holds the ballet together. Seymour as Mrs Lowry is possessive, sly and totally feminine.

But, the central roles apart, the ballet looks pretty thin stuff. Not many choreographers have solved the problem of transforming painting, a static two-dimensional medium, into dance, which is essentially three-dimensional and should be about movement. On this occasion Miss Lynne is not among that select band.

The remainder of the programme includes Amedeo Amadio's *Suite Italienne*, a set of dances to Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* Suite, transcribed by the composer for violin and piano. Crisper dancing and a more acute sense of style are needed to restore the character to this week, and the playing left something to be desired.

*Mémoire Imaginaire*, by Michael Pink, purports to be about Berthe Morisot and Edouard Manet, and consists of two perfectly predictable *pas de deux*, in which Mireille Bourgeois loves Manet when he is danced by Duncan de Gruy, but not when he becomes Didier Gentiloff. Neither choreography nor programme provides an explanation.

Judith Cruickshank

DEE CONWAY



Christopher Gable and Lynn Seymour as J.S. Lowry and his mother

## CONCERT

Capricorn  
Purcell Room

Here was the perennial hostess's problem twice over: how to select and arrange a group of disparate objects so that they work together in some way. The composer James

Ellis faced it in his "Mountain Steps", a set of five diverse movements for mixed septet, and the planners of this concert faced it in their placing of Ellis's work with four American pieces that were themselves oddly assorted.

In neither case did the party quite take off, although some of the guests were well worth meeting.

The most impressive performance was that of Elliott Carter's *Sonata for flute, oboe, cello and harpsichord*, a work not often heard by reason of its instrumentation. A long generation ago, when it was new, it must have seemed a likely candidate for inclusion in an evening of trio Sonatas.

One effect of the "authenticity" movement has been to sever the connections between the 18th century and such works as this, whose highly sophisticated neo-classicism is perhaps comparable only with that of Debussy's late sonatas.

The four members of Capricorn found in it a similar delicacy, polish and irony, but of course with a better energy and a punchier assertion of individual characters, with Catherine Edwards weightlessly dexterous at the harpsichord and the others — the flautist Hesmah Raheman, the oboist Robin Carter and the cellist Timothy Mason — all: enacting their parts with confidence.

Carter also excelled in the first movement of the new Ellis piece, an oboe solo in which he contrived some unusual pianissimo effects: this was beautiful playing of a not very extraordinary invention. After it came two active but essentially unvaried ensemble movements, the second: remarkable for a shrill use of high woodwind, then a little slow movement of quiet chords and gong strokes, and a finale that was a quodlibet, ending oddly with a sort of folk song.

Perhaps the intention was to present an arbitrary grouping, but the result was curiously satisfactory, and was made more so by movement titles that concealed more than they disclosed: "Ruh..." had obvious relevance to the fourth movement, but "Fesdan na Ciche" goes beyond at least this history's competence. I am not even sure whether the title of the whole work was meant to be a pun.

The rest of the programme included Copland's *Piano Quartet*, with its crucial central scherzo effectively brought off, a property cool central performance by Martin Kelly in the second of Feldman's "Viola in My Life" pieces, and Michael Fuchs's regrettable "Yellow Pages".

Paul Griffiths

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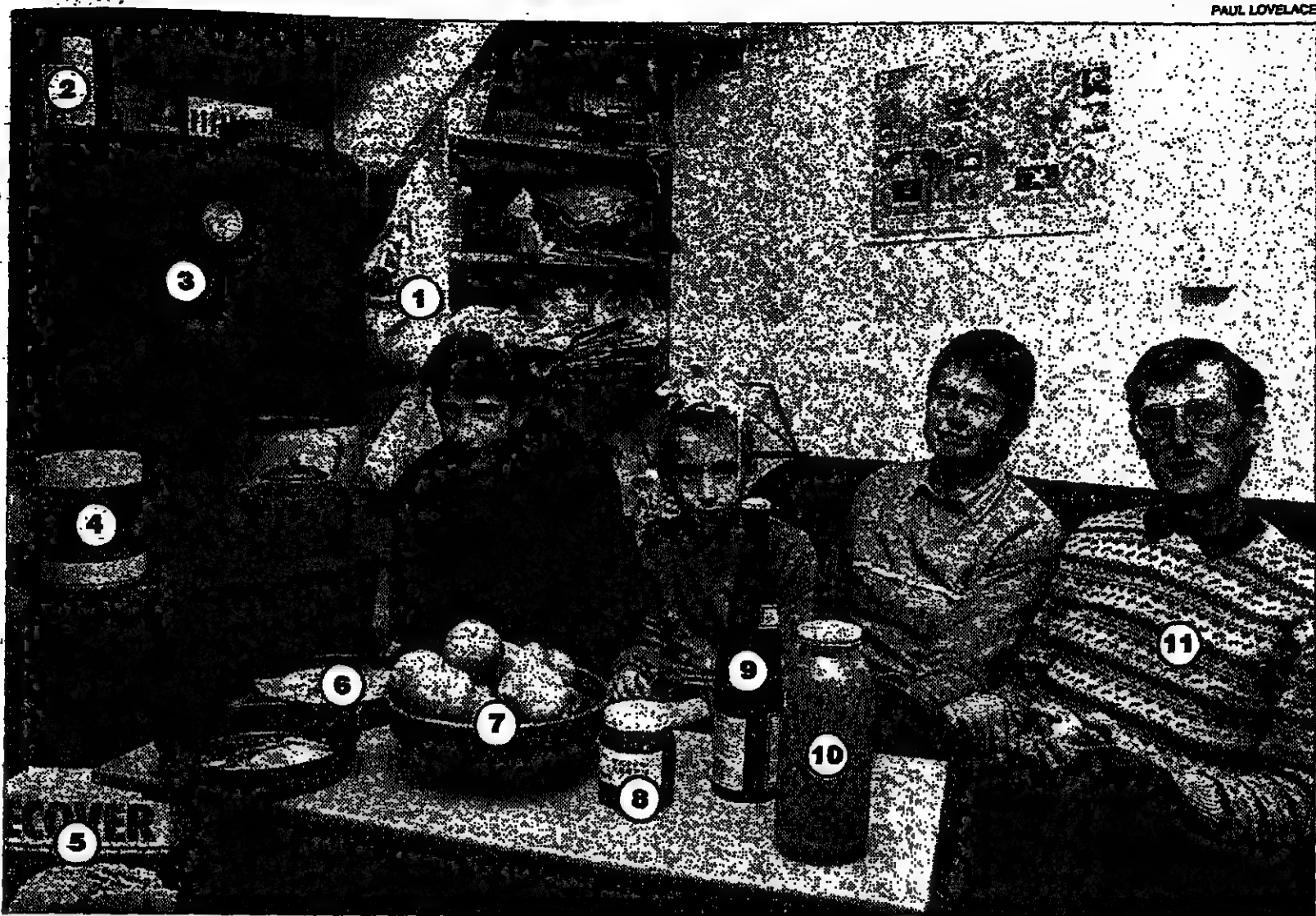
## FRIDAY PAGE

هكزامن الأصيل

## Glad to be Green?

It may be good for you, and the environment, to be 'Green', but can it ever be chic?

Liz Gill examines the reality — and occasional compromises — of the good lifestyle



PAUL LOVELACE

Home comforts for the Blands: 13-year-old Rosie has been known to sample the odd ham sandwich at parties, but the pet rats are vegans

- ① Plastic carrier bags, one for milk bottles, one for used stamps, all donated to charity ② Organic, animal-test-free shampoo ③ Wood burning stove provides heating, hot water, hot plates and oven ④ Three-tier mang bean and alfalfa sprouter ⑤ Ecological, phosphate-free washing powder ⑥ Cake baked in solar oven ⑦ Home-grown organic apples ⑧ Morello jam from own fruit ⑨ Home-made elderflower wine ⑩ The Blands (from left, Rosie, Michael, Jenny and Harold) buy clothes mostly from jumble sales; shoes are canvas. All light is powered by windmill.

What most of us call rubbish barely exists for the Blands. Almost everything that passes through their Hertfordshire home can be recycled, reused, taken to bottle or can banks, burnt as fuel, made into compost or given to charity. The dustman has to come only three times a year.

Maximum use, minimum consumption are the first principles of their "Green" lifestyle, which, in whole or in part, is now pursued by an increasing number.

A Gallup poll at the end of last year found that 4.3 million adults and children — four times as many women as men — had either embraced full vegetarianism or abandoned red meat, an 17 per cent rise on the previous year. The Green Party polled nearly 90,000 votes at the general election and plans to field 400 candidates at the local elections next month. Environmental pressure groups are flourishing and the Prince of Wales, who as patron of the European Year of the Environment has attacked Britain's environmental policies, believes there is a groundswell of genuine concern.

Harold and Jenny Bland took the decision to turn vegetarian on their wedding day 23 years ago, and began by declining the sausage rolls at the reception. Within a year they were vegans and still are. This means they have no cheese, eggs, butter or milk to eat, no leather or wool to wear.

"When we started there were about two recipe books. Now there are hundreds," Jenny says. "We used to have to go down to London to buy from specialists; now we just pop round to Tesco's. They spend about £20 to £30 a week on bought-in food and household goods for the family of four. Friends who come for a meal might typically dine on artichoke soup, curried lentils with rice and salad and stewed fruit.

Without being despotic, they have tried to rear their children on their principles. Rosie, now 13, has been known to sample the odd ham sandwich at parties, but Michael has never touched meat in his 10 years. Even the pet rats are vegans, although they have accepted that the cat is an unrepentant carnivore.

They stress, however, that diet is only one part of it. "What we're interested in is a lifestyle that makes a smaller impact on the environment, that is sustainable and doesn't use up the world's resources," Harold says. As I arrived he was just popping a

wholefood cake into his home-made solar oven, a contraption of foil, glass and an old tea chest which sits on the lawn of their 2.5 acre spread in Rabley Heath.

A few yards away is a windmill which provides enough power for the lighting (the rest comes from the grid) and nearby are vast stacks of wood for the two stoves (heating and hot water). Solar panels are planned for the roof of the five-bedroom bungalow.

There is a substantial vegetable plot; fruit bushes, almond, hazel and walnut trees mean that harvest time is a flurry of bottling, drying and jam-making. The excess is sold, swapped or given away. Chemical fertilisers and pesticides are banned; nature, they say, does the work for them. "For instance, just when you're beginning to despair about the greenfly, a horde of ladybirds suddenly appears," Harold explains.

Their little green valley is surrounded by farming of the hedgerow-free, artificially-manipulated type, but "the crop sprayers have been very

'good about giving us a wide berth'". The Blands did not embrace vegetarianism primarily for health reasons, but they have discovered considerable benefits. They have been used in more than 20 experiments — Harold has the unusual accolade of having the lowest cholesterol level one particular scientist had ever seen, and they have a food transit period (input to output) of 30 hours. Africans have a model 24 hours, most Westerners a sluggish 70.

They are not anti-technology per se. Their home features perhaps a surprising number of gadgets, including a microwave oven, although they were hoping to run it off the windmill. There is no washing machine. Jenny prefers to do it by hand using a phosphate-free powder called Ecover which also comes as a laundry cleaner.

Clothes are usually bought from jumble sales or Oxfam shops ("We actually like second-hand things") and they have been known to make flipflops from an old rubber canvas conveyor belt and rope sandals from a

fibre mat. Shampoos and cosmetics are organic and made without animal testing.

They use recycled paper wherever possible but had to draw the line at recycled lavatory paper: apart from the discomfort, they found they needed three times as much.

Plastic bags are a perennial problem: it is almost impossible not to acquire them but Harold says more can be burned than you would think. His test is to try a corner. If it doesn't give off an acrid smell it is OK.

They have a car, a Vauxhall Astra, but try to use it as little as possible, for "transporting elderly relatives, that sort of thing". Harold says. Most journeys are made on foot or on one of an array of bikes that includes tandems and racers.

Over the years there have been some inevitable compromises. "I could never find a suitable alternative to leather shoes for the children when they were small," Jenny says. "And for years I was determined that they should have my home-made tomato sauce, but in the end I gave up." So far Rosie and Michael seem content with it all — though they were, I noted, watching a video of that monument to meat-eating aggression, *Police Academy*.

A Green lifestyle obviously consumes a fair amount of time, depending on the season, and it helps to have jobs that are not too taxing physically. Harold and Jenny are both lecturers at a further education college, he in physics, she part-time in mathematics. Moreover, it would seem impossible if both partners did not share the same beliefs.

The Blands admit to a good degree of self-interest too: it would not be possible, they say, to live in such surroundings in such an area on their joint £22,000 income were their outgoings not so modest.

They have always intended their way of life to be comfortable. "You'll find no sackcloth and ashes here." It is reasonably easy and fun, though the latter remains resolutely wholesome: canoeing, holidays, folk-dancing and playing in a string quartet (with steel rather than cat-gut strings, of course).

They appear a cheerful and affectionate bunch, given to the occasional self-deprecating comment. When people ask Harold if they drink alcohol he says: "Of course we do. What do you think we are, cranks?"

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## The thin end of a philosophical wedge

Dr Jane Wynne announced the week in *The Times* that she intended to stay in the field of child abuse, despite the controversy her use of RAD (reflex anal dilatation) has stirred up. It was a lecture of Wynne's, you may remember, which inspired Dr Marietta Higgs, the Cleveland paediatrician, to examine the bottoms of local children, with some rather dire results.

A number of parents in Leeds, who have had their children removed from them under suspicion of child abuse, are also upset at Wynne, who works at the Leeds General Infirmary. Since Wynne and her colleague, Dr Christopher Hobbs, began using RAD, the number of diagnosed sexual abuse cases in the city has increased by about 400 per cent.

For some time now I have been puzzling over the fuss around Wynne. RAD is a technique that has been largely dismissed in America and is, at best, very controversial in this country. I am unqualified to evaluate medical techniques, of course, but even the lay observer can grasp the notion that a procedure that causes such controversy is not likely to be the most credible tool of diagnosis — least of all as a justification to wrench children from their families.

Still, Wynne and Hobbs continue to defend the practice, in spite of some public qualifications. In an article last year in *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, they were adamant: "We hold by our view that reflex dilatation of the anus correlates highly with continuing abuse, disappears when children are removed into a protected environment, and is not found in diseases such as thrush, threadworms or constipation."

In the correspondence that followed the publication of this essay, Wynne and Hobbs, after offering a rather weak rebuttal to criticism from a police surgeon, Dr Raine Roberts, wrote this: "In the current controversy, it is interesting to find some paediatricians in alliance with the powerless and the abused — that is the child — and some police surgeons in alliance with the more traditional authorities in the form of the parents and the police. The *New Statesman* (July 31, 1987), in a well researched analysis of the issues involved in the Cleveland controversy, underlines this point well."

"It is as much these differences in philosophy [my italics]," Wynne and Hobbs continued, "that prevent us moving closer to Dr Roberts's view, than merely the interpretation of the scientific material."

What does this mean, I wondered? How do you "philosophically" diagnose a disease or a criminal act? There is, of course, a constituency that does regard the family and police as class



BARBARA AMIEL

enemies, and sees the issue of child abuse as a means to root such class enemies out. People who hold this point of view do see themselves as the only ones who represent the interests of the child — as opposed to the "traditional authorities" in society, whom they stigmatize as caring only about power.

The *New Statesman* article Wynne and Hobbs referred to with glowing approval is by Beatrix Campbell, a Communist party member, who not surprisingly offers an interpretation of the Cleveland events in terms of class interests. Her article attacks Stuart Bell MP, the campaigner on behalf of the Cleveland parents.

"In the name of protecting innocent adults," Campbell writes, "Bell has endorsed not the experience of the powerless, that is the children, but he has invoked the rights of the police surgeon and of 'the parent'. These are the traditional authorities."

Those who hold this philosophical point of view seem to me to be exploiting the issue of child abuse in order to wage an attack on the family and its independence, as well as the fundamental rights of the individual. Such people may be of far-left persuasion or they may simply be statist.

No doubt all these people share our fundamental abhorrence of the monstrous crimes some evil men and women commit against children, but they seem to use the natural abhorrence we all have to this as the thin end of the wedge in their battle to reshape and re-engineer the world according to their views.

This approach is unconcerned about the unsatisfactory standards of proof required in care proceedings before the state takes children

away from their parents. I find it alarming that parents who are under suspicion of abuse are often not allowed to get a second medical opinion for the court hearing, or enter character witnesses on their behalf. Further, one worries about the testimony of children who have been taken away from their parents under emergency orders and spent several sessions, or even weeks, cooped up, undergoing interviews and re-enacting incidents with dolls and social workers who may share the "philosophy" of a Beatrix Campbell.

Meanwhile, a further worry is our rather cavalier attitude to the statistics of this whole area. In the United States it is estimated that more than 60 per cent of all child abuse accusations are unsubstantiated. In England no attempt is made to differentiate between unsubstantiated accusations and substantiated ones. The statistics are further complicated, of course, when the forcible rape of a four-year-old girl is lumped together statistically with such "abuse" as a child accidentally overhearing a sexual remark.

Ultimately, I think the problem comes down to allowing the offence of child abuse to be largely managed by a state bureaucracy in what amounts to supra-legal proceedings. Why, after all, should the state be less scrupulous in this highly difficult situation than it is in running a steel mill? Bureaucracies are among the most inefficient ways of handling human problems. They have their rules, their definitions, their procedures. They will not stick their necks out. If a child breaks a bone twice, they will put him on the at-risk register for ever, even if he is later found to have brittle bone disease — as has happened.

The solution, I think, lies in seeing that all these matters are handled in the criminal justice system, where normal tests and safeguards are available. If the criminal justice system is too crude an instrument to serve the needs of children at risk, then let us beef it up in the necessary areas of protection and investigation.

In the end, I suppose, we have to decide on which side to err. The traditional idea of liberal democracy has been that it is better to let 100 guilty people go free than punish an innocent man, and that every human being deserves the benefit of reasonable doubt. Such ringing sentiments together formed the basis of our free and just society.

We now want to take the opposite point of view in which we are sanguine about the risk of convicting 100 innocent parents so long as one guilty father does not escape? These are, indeed, "differences in philosophy", and just like Wynne, I have no doubt where my priorities lie.

## There is a constituency that regards the family and the police as class enemies

## Propelled to the top of television

According to Liz Forgan, the Americans believe that an office with two windows has great prestige. Forgan's corner office at Channel 4 has windows — on to both London's Charlotte Street and Scala Street. "I think," she says with a grin, "that this is the best office in the building."

The office is not new, but Forgan's position as programme controller at the television station is. The appointment, announced this week, has seen her hailed as "the most powerful woman in television."

Forgan once revealed that she lacked ambition and if this seems at odds with her rapid rise, it is nevertheless true that she does not seek out promotion; yet she has been propelled up the ladder by an ever-increasing number of

admiring bosses and cheered on her way by genuinely fond colleagues.

Educated at Benenden and Oxford, she pursued a career in newspaper journalism before joining Channel 4 when it began, in 1981, as a senior commissioning editor for news and current affairs. She was offered the job by Jeremy Isaacs, the chief executive, when, as women's editor of *The Guardian*, she interviewed him. Three years later she became assistant programme controller and last year deputy programme controller.

Her new job, in which she is responsible for controlling, and encouraging, the channel's dozen commissioning editors and maintaining the "balance" of programmes, is one of the most influential and responsible in television. She

How Liz Forgan took control at Channel 4



Balancing act: Liz Forgan

sighs when you ask what are her special skills. "I don't know... I really don't know. I can't make television programmes. I haven't got a policy and I haven't got a plan. I'm quite organized..."

There is often the shallow assumption that a woman in decision-making areas is going to keep a sharp lookout for "women's interests", whatever they may be. But those who believe Forgan's new role will herald a proliferation of programmes with a domestic fixation ignore the fact that her progress has been via news and current affairs — and that she has gone on record as saying she did not believe in women's programmes ("we're too big a class").

Forgan is keen to give more weight to Channel 4's drama series and is very anxious to use her new role to change the way in which commissioning editors work. "Jeremy was such a marvellous visionary, he'd say: 'This is what we're going to do' and everyone would say 'Great' and go away

and think of things to fit into that. It was a marvellous, hugely fruitful way of doing things because he's a genius, but you rather still initiate at a much lower level."

She would like "once or twice a year", to sit down with Michael Grade and the channel's two controllers "to think where Channel 4 should be going in the next three years. And we would each go to that meeting with ideas that come from commissioning editors who know the pitches that are coming from the producers and what is firing out there."

She claims her favourite pastime is doing absolutely nothing. There would seem to be little chance of that in future.

Audrey Slaughter

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## INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

## THEATRE

### LONDON

★ **BLUES IN THE NIGHT:** Hit black blues show, with Carol Woods, Sarah Woodson, Helen Collier and a Straker singing their hearts out in a sleek Chicago hotel. Piccadilly Theatre, Denham Street, W1 (01-437 4808). Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £8.50-£14.50. (D)

★ **THE BROWNING VERSION/HARLEQUINADE:** Rattigan double bill: story cast by Dorothy Tutin and Paul Eddington. Royal Theatre, Portugal Street WC2 (01-836 0660). Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **THE COMMON PURSUIT:** Simon Gray plays the fortunes of underdog friends; splendid cast led by Rik Mayall, John Sessions, Stephen Fry, John Gordan. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, W1 (01-836 2294). Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **CUTTING EDGE:** Adaptation of Gorbodach's "Woe from War", one of the great sagas of the Russian theatre and the earliest (1850). Pompanon Theatre, Three Horse Shoes Public House, Heath Street NW4 (01-435 8757). Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **THE MIRACLE WORKER:** William Gibson's celebrated play about how blind young Helen Keller learns to communicate with Hildegarde, Daryl Bannister. Palace Theatre, Palace Street SW1 (01-834 0283). Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **THE MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERERS OF 1946:** New York comedy-thriller starring Simon Cadell, Tom Baker, Margaret Courney, Sheila Steafel, Maria Friedman. Set in a country mansion out of (you guessed it) snow. Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill SE10 (01-856 7755). Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **NANA:** Shared Experience's vigorous production of Zola's tale of decadent abandon in the 1890s. Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock EC4 (01-236 5568). Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **ZIEGFELD:** Spectacular musical based on the life of the man who made the famous Follies, and costing a bomb. With Len Cariou, Geoffrey Hutchings and Louise Gold. London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street W1 (01-437 7373). Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

★ **CRY FREEDOM (PG):** Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and liberal sentiments, with Kevin Spacey as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Steve Biko (Denzel Washington) (158 min). Empire Leicester Square (01-622 3038). Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £15.50 and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

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# Makeba and her music

The singer Miriam Makeba was an international celebrity long before Paul Simon recruited her to his *Graceland* touring party. Well known in Britain for her "click" song, she became a star in the United States with her 1967 hit "Pata Pata". She was appointed as a Guinea delegate to the United Nations - to whom she had appeared as early as 1963 for an American boycott and arms embargo against her native South Africa - and, among other recognitions, received the Dag Hammarskjöld Peace Prize in 1986.

Tonight she plays the first of four British concerts to promote a new album, *Seagulls and My Story*. Some story it is: protest singer in school and church; national tour at the age of 20; exiled from South Africa in 1966; married five times (husbands included Stokely Carmichael, former Black Panther, and Hugh Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15. Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15. Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15.

★ **FATAL ATTRACTION (18):** A spurned lover (Glenn Close) takes revenge on Michael Douglas, his wife (Anne Archer) and family. Adrian Lyne directs this unsettling thriller (119 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15.

★ **FLAME IN MY HEART (18):** Alan Tanner's lugubrious drama, shot in black-and-white, very much a showcase for its star and co-writer Miriam Makeba. A story of love and political consciousness set against the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. With Daniel Day-Lewis, Juliette Binoche, Lena Olin (172 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15.

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Miriam Makeba: new tour for the first lady of the African continent

Makeba, trumpet player; a bandleader at 19; befriended by Mandela starting part in the South African musical *King Kong*; cancer conquest; the *Graceland* tour... Donald Woods described her this year as "first lady of the African continent in the concert halls of the world". Her tour starts tonight at the Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh (031 728 1164) 7.30pm, £6.50-£8.50, tomorrow Manchester Apollo (06127 3775) 7.30pm, £6.50-£8.50, Monday Bristol (0272 291768) 7.30pm, £6.50-£8.50, Tuesday Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01 748 4081) 7.30pm, £6.50-£8.50.

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★ **EMPIRE OF THE SUN (PG):** J.G. Ballard's autobiographical novel about a British child in Shanghai caught by the invading Japanese in the Second World War, filmed by Steven Spielberg with great panache, with Christian Bale, John Malkovich and Nigel Havers (163 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15.

★ **MOONSTRUCK (PG):** Should Cher and Robert De Niro be following her heart and go for his brother, Nicholas Cage? Norman Jewison took the Best Director award at the Berlin Film Festival and Cher the Best Actress Oscar (102 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15.

★ **THE UNREARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING (18):** Philip Kaufman's massive and majestic adaptation of Milan Kundera's novel: a story of love and political consciousness set against the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. With Daniel Day-Lewis, Juliette Binoche, Lena Olin (172 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.05, 4.15, 7.40, 11.15.

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★ **RICHARD DEERING:** British piano music including Elgar's Concerto, Bridge's Three Sketches, Hodge's Five Preludes, Siles's Equinox and Camilleri's Nocturne is played by Richard Deering. Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 3191, cc 01-828 8800). 7.30pm, £2.50-£5.

★ **MASONIC MOZART:** As part of the "End Games" series the Boumoum Sinfonietta is conducted by Roger Norrington in Mozart's *Mass in D* and *Symphony No 41 "Jupiter"*, also in Berlioz's *Musique de Chambre* (Walker, mezzo soprano). Queen



## TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear  
and Jane Rackham

## BBC1

- 6.00** *Coastal AM*. News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.
- 6.40** *Friday Prayers for Ramadan* 1400 AH. The first of four programmes introduced by Prince Hassan bin Talal (r) 6.55 *Westward*.
- 7.00** *Breakfast Time* with Jeremy Paxman and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.20, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25. 8.55 Regional news and weather.
- 9.00** News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Bob Wellings receives viewers' comments on a topical subject.
- 10.00** News and weather followed by *One of the Family*. Series on pets, presented by Marian Foster and Brian Watkins. Today Dave Lester and Clare Evans have advice on reptiles (r). 10.25 *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme details and birthday greetings followed by *Play School* (r) and *Paddington* (r).
- 10.55** *Five in Eleven*. Laurence Olivier with a reading 11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air* with Bob Wellings and Janet Ellis.
- 12.00** News and weather followed by *Daytime Live*. Today's last edition of the series includes the final of the *Mr Daytime Live* competition. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 1.00** *One O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Weather. 1.30 *Neighbours*. Jane and Mike have a showdown, and Mike turns to Nikki for comfort while Jane seeks solace with Shane 1.50 *When in Spain* with Andrew Sachs (r).

## BBC2

- 6.55** *Open University: Light Waves or Particles*. Ends at 7.20.
- 8.00** *World Snooker*. Second round action on day seven of the Embassy World Professional Championship. Steve Davis continues his last-25 frames match against Mike Hallett; Tony Knowles begins his game with Eddie Charlton.
- 1.20** *Fingermouse*. A See-Saw programme for the very young with Iain Lauchlan and Hardy (r). 1.35 *Weekend Outlook*. A preview of the weekend's Open University programmes.
- 1.40** *World Snooker*. Live coverage of the opening eight frames of the second round match between Tony Knowles and Dennis Taylor; and the second session of the match between Stephen Hendry and Jimmy White. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Kameh and Clive Everton with summaries by John Spencer, John Virgo and Eddie Charlton. Includes news and weather at 8.00, 8.30 and 8.50.
- 8.30** *The Glorious Gladiators*. Thirty-seven years after the event survivors of the heroic stand by 1,000 soldiers of the Gloucestershire Regiment against two Chinese armies recall the four days and nights they held out, the gallantry of those who died and the cruelty suffered by those taken prisoner at the hands of their captors (first shown on BBC Midlands).
- 9.00** *World Snooker*. Further second round action from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield.
- 9.50** *Young Musician of the Year*. Humphrey Burton introduces the 11 young musicians comprising the string semfinal. The resident adjudicator, Professor Alan Hoddinott, is joined by violinist Pan Hon Lee, cellist Robert Cohen, harp player Maria Robles and music administrator Louis Carus.
- 7.30** *On the House*. This week's edition of the home refurbishment series includes a guide to choosing and using leaders; and advice on restoring a bay window. With Patsy Caldwell, Rick Ball and Harry Greene.



Humphrey Burton introduces the string semfinal (BBC2, 6.50pm)

- 8.00** *Weekend*. The first of a new what's on and how-to-go guide series of programmes for viewers living in the south and east (see variations for other regions).
- 8.30** *Gardeners' World* presented by Geoff Hamilton and Anne Swinbank from Paradise where Joy Larkcom, recently returned from China, has ideas for growing a great deal in a small space. Plus Bill Symondson with tips on getting rid of slugs.
- 9.00** *World Snooker*. Action from matches involving Steve Davis and Tony Knowles.
- 9.30** *Review* includes a sneak preview of the contents of Andy Warhol's *Western Union* on the eve of their auction by Sotheby's; and David Freeman reviews Peter Brook's new nine-hour production of *Mahabharata*, based on an ancient Sanskrit epic poem, which has just opened in Glasgow's former museum of transport.
- 10.00** *Secret Services: The Press*. (see Choice)
- 10.50** *Newsnight* includes a report on the first round of voting in the French presidential elections. 11.25 *Weather*.
- 11.40** *World Snooker*. Further coverage of the matches involving Steve Davis and Tony Knowles. Ends at 12.45am.

## ITV/LONDON

- 6.00** TV-am begins with *The Sports Show* introduced by Geoff Clark. 6.30 *The Morning Show* with Richard Keys. 7.00 *Good Morning Britain* presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. After Nine includes Russell Grant's astrology slot.
- 8.25** *Thames news*.
- 9.30** *Lucky Ladders*. Word game show presented by Lesley Bennett. 10.00 *Saturn*. Barbara 10.25 *Thames news*.
- 10.30** *The Time*. Nick Owen chairs a discussion on facing up to life's challenges. The guests include Liz Fraser, Don Bryan and Anne Diamond. 11.15 *Rainbow*. Learning with puppets and guest, Anna Dawson (r). 11.25 *Thames news*.
- 11.30** *The Countrywide in Question*. Henry Henry examines the impact on the new farming methods on the landscape. 12.00 *The Saturday*. 12.30 *Countrywide*. Quiz series with Matthew Kelly. The guest is Richard Digby.
- 1.00** *Next at One with Julia Somerville*. 1.25 *Thames news*.
- 1.30** *Man in a Sulfuric*. McGil is to find out whether or not a young woman is being manhandled. 1.55 *Starring*. Starring McGil (r). 2.30 to 3.5. *Thames news*.
- 3.00** *Take the High Road*. Sheila talks to Carol about Eddie 3.25 *Thames news*.
- 4.00** *Next at One with Julia Somerville*. 4.25 *Thames news*.
- 4.30** *Starring*. Starring McGil (r). 4.55 *Thames news*.
- 5.15** *Winner Takes All*. Family quiz game.
- 5.45** *News with Fiona Armstrong*.
- 6.00** *The 6 O'Clock Show* introduced by Michael Aspel.

## CHANNEL 4

- 12.00** *Nature in Focus*. This second in the series examining wildlife in a combination of micro-photography and dramatized sequences focuses on bees. With Alison Soodman, Demetri Jagger and Jason Bristow (r).
- 12.30** *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service presented by John Plender.
- 1.00** *Science Stories*. Learning series for pre-school children. The guest is actress, comedienne and singer, Madeleine Kahn.
- 2.00** *The Parliament Programme*. Presented by David Stewart. Reports Jackie Ashley and Nicholas Woolley review yesterday's debates and look forward to those scheduled for today.
- 2.30** *Channel 4 Racing* from Sandown Park. Derek Thompson introduces coverage of the *Harvest Stakes* (2.35); the *Grosvenor House Stakes* (3.05); the *Thurston Fortis Mile* (3.40); and the *Little Chert Stakes* (4.10). The race commentator is Graham Good.
- 4.30** *Countdown*. Yesterday's edition of the word and numbers game is challenged by Londoner Chrystal Rose. Richard Whitley is the questionmaster assisted by Dinah Sherrin in the dictionary corner.
- 5.00** *Winners: Room to Move*. This third of eight films by the Australian Children's Television Foundation stars Nicole Kidman as Carol, a young athlete who is being pressured to succeed by her parents, and Alyssa Cook as Angie, a dance lover who receives no encouragement from her mother and father. Together the two girls help each other to cope with their respective problems and pressures. Directed by John Dugan.
- 6.00** *The Chert Show* includes a section on the video work of Kate Bush.
- 7.00** *Channel 4 News* with Trevor McDonald and Nick Gowing. Followed by *Weather*.
- 7.55** *Book Club*. Feminist writer Sara Maitland reviews Doris Lessing's new novel *The Fifth Child* (Oracle).

## Radio 1

- 6.55** *Weather*. News headlines.
- 7.00** *Morning News*. Granger's *Walking Tune*. Birmingham's *Sinfonietta* under Montgomery; Television (Don Quichotte) Suite; Stuart CO under Munching; Ravel (Don Quichotte) Suite; Don Quichotte; Germaine Souzay, baritone, and Dorian Baskin, piano.
- 7.30** *Morning News*. Concert continues: Dittusford (Symphony in D) (Pharos) Suite; Cantata under Sherrin; Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending); LPO under Boult; with Jean Douglass, violin; Dittusford (The Swan); Swingle II; Respighi (The Birds Suite); San Francisco SO under De Waart.
- 8.30** *Composers of the Week*. Britain in America. Recordings including Oliver Cromwell, Prior, Packer, tenor, with the composer, piano; An American Overture (1914), CBSO under Rattle; Hymn to St Cecilia, Op 27, London Symphony Chorus under George Norton.
- 9.30** *The Westminster Tradition*. Last of three piano recitals by Ian Laid, includes: Chopin's *Impromptu* in E, Op 7, No 5; Smetana's *Souvenir de Bohème* in some de potka, Op 13 No 2; Liszt's *Concerto*, Op 5 No 1; and Janacek's *The Little Owl*. Continues *Screaming*.
- 10.30** *Harrogate International* (see Choice). Northern Singers under Stephen Wilkinson, with Peter Donohoe and Martin Roscoe, pianos, perform Brahms's *Festliche Thanksgiving Sentences*, Op 105; Variations on the St John's Chorus; Hungarian Dances; Liszt's *Waltzes*, Op 52; Neue Lieder, Op 65; and Zum Schluß.
- 11.30** *Arnold, Ravel and Debussy*. David Campbell, harp, and Andrew Bass, piano, play Malcolm Arnold's *Sonatas*; Ravel's *Suite*; and John Cage's *Music for Prepared Piano*.
- 12.10** *BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra*. Conducted by Oskara Neumann, with Inge Drummond, soprano. *Maestro's Burial*: first broadcast of Edward Elgar's *Symphony No 64* in A.
- 1.20** *Next at One*. 1.05 *Kontre Quartet*. Third in a series of four programmes. Hayden's *String Quartet* in E

## Radio 2

- 6.55** *Weather*. News headlines.
- 7.00** *Morning News*. Granger's *Walking Tune*. Birmingham's *Sinfonietta* under Montgomery; Television (Don Quichotte) Suite; Stuart CO under Munching; Ravel (Don Quichotte) Suite; Don Quichotte; Germaine Souzay, baritone, and Dorian Baskin, piano.
- 7.30** *Morning News*. Concert continues: Dittusford (Symphony in D) (Pharos) Suite; Cantata under Sherrin; Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending); LPO under Boult; with Jean Douglass, violin; Dittusford (The Swan); Swingle II; Respighi (The Birds Suite); San Francisco SO under De Waart.
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- 1.20** *Next at One*. 1.05 *Kontre Quartet*. Third in a series of four programmes. Hayden's *String Quartet* in E

## Radio 3

- 6.55** *Weather*. News headlines.
- 7.00** *Morning News*. Granger's *Walking Tune*. Birmingham's *Sinfonietta* under Montgomery; Television (Don Quichotte) Suite; Stuart CO under Munching; Ravel (Don Quichotte) Suite; Don Quichotte; Germaine Souzay, baritone, and Dorian Baskin, piano.
- 7.30** *Morning News*. Concert continues: Dittusford (Symphony in D) (Pharos) Suite; Cantata under Sherrin; Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending); LPO under Boult; with Jean Douglass, violin; Dittusford (The Swan); Swingle II; Respighi (The Birds Suite); San Francisco SO under De Waart.
- 8.30** *Composers of the Week*. Britain in America. Recordings including Oliver Cromwell, Prior, Packer, tenor, with the composer, piano; An American Overture (1914), CBSO under Rattle; Hymn to St Cecilia, Op 27, London Symphony Chorus under George Norton.
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- 12.10** *BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra*. Conducted by Oskara Neumann, with Inge Drummond, soprano. *Maestro's Burial*: first broadcast of Edward Elgar's *Symphony No 64* in A.
- 1.20** *Next at One*. 1.05 *Kontre Quartet*. Third in a series of four programmes. Hayden's *String Quartet* in E

## Radio 4

- 6.55** *Weather*. News headlines.
- 7.00** *Morning News*. Granger's *Walking Tune*. Birmingham's *Sinfonietta* under Montgomery; Television (Don Quichotte) Suite; Stuart CO under Munching; Ravel (Don Quichotte) Suite; Don Quichotte; Germaine Souzay, baritone, and Dorian Baskin, piano.
- 7.30** *Morning News*. Concert continues: Dittusford (Symphony in D) (Pharos) Suite; Cantata under Sherrin; Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending); LPO under Boult; with Jean Douglass, violin; Dittusford (The Swan); Swingle II; Respighi (The Birds Suite); San Francisco SO under De Waart.
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## VARIATIONS

- BBC1** *Wales*. Today 6.35-7.00 News. 7.00-7.30 *Wales Today*. 7.30-8.00 *Wales Today*. 8.00-8.30 *Wales Today*. 8.30-9.00 *Wales Today*. 9.00-9.30 *Wales Today*. 9.30-10.00 *Wales Today*. 10.00-10.30 *Wales Today*. 10.30-11.00 *Wales Today*. 11.00-11.30 *Wales Today*. 11.30-12.00 *Wales Today*. 12.00-12.30 *Wales Today*. 12.30-1.00 *Wales Today*. 1.00-1.30 *Wales Today*. 1.30-2.00 *Wales Today*. 2.00-2.30 *Wales Today*. 2.30-3.00 *Wales Today*. 3.00-3.30 *Wales Today*. 3.30-4.00 *Wales Today*. 4.00-4.30 *Wales Today*. 4.30-5.00 *Wales Today*. 5.00-5.30 *Wales Today*. 5.30-6.00 *Wales Today*. 6.00-6.30 *Wales Today*. 6.30-7.00 *Wales Today*. 7.00-7.30 *Wales Today*. 7.30-8.00 *Wales Today*. 8.00-8.30 *Wales Today*. 8.30-9.00 *Wales Today*. 9.00-9.30 *Wales Today*. 9.30-10.00 *Wales Today*. 10.00-10.30 *Wales Today*. 10.30-11.00 *Wales Today*. 11.00-11.30 *Wales Today*. 11.30-12.00 *Wales Today*. 12.00-12.30 *Wales Today*. 12.30-1.00 *Wales Today*. 1.00-1.30 *Wales Today*. 1.30-2.00 *Wales Today*. 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FRIDAY APRIL 22 1988

Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

## STOCK MARKET

FT 38 Share  
1423.4 (+4.0)

FT-SE 100  
1791.9 (+5.5)

Bargains  
243.08 (227.68)

US\$ (Datastream)  
\$49.00 (-0.06)

## THE POUND

US dollar  
1.8990 (+0.0050)

W German mark  
3.1590 (+0.0112)

Trade-weighted  
78.3 (+0.2)

Boesky aid  
'may start  
new cases'

Ivan Boesky's help in exposing other Wall Street offenders is more significant than previously recognized and could start new charges, his lawyers indicated in a request to cut his three-year prison sentence.

Boesky has co-operated in a massive federal investigation that has already resulted in four criminal charges in the United States, four guilty pleas and nine civil actions by the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

His information on Guinness also started the Department of Trade investigation into the drinks group.

In seeking a reduction in Boesky's three-year term, his lawyers, Mr Leon Silverman and Mr Robert McCaw, disclosed in a court document that federal officials physically protected him from a death threat before he began serving his sentence last month.

## Sale by Bell

The Bell Group of Australia has sold one of its British properties, a building at 17 Great Cumberland Place in London, for \$25.6 million (£2.1 million). The sale yielded a tax-free profit of \$25.3 million.

## £75m facility

Peachey Property Corporation — currently locked in a takeover battle for Estates Property Investment Company — has signed a £75 million multi-option facility arranged by Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

## SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| New York       | 2008.86 (+54.54)  |
| Nikkei         | 26828.14 (-35.93) |
| Hong Kong      | 2552.71 (-25.73)  |
| Hang Seng      | 246.8 (-0.2)      |
| Sydney         | 1438.2 (+7.8)     |
| Frankfurt      | 1378.5 (-9.9)     |
| Commerzbank    | 4870.8 (-11.8)    |
| Basel          | 307.5 (+1.1)      |
| Paribas        | 460.7 (-0.5)      |
| FT-A All Share | 923.57 (+2.78)    |
| FT-100         | 1015.87 (+2.33)   |
| FT-Gold Mines  | 208.6 (-7.5)      |
| FT-Food Int'l  | 97.32 (+0.05)     |
| FT-Govt Secs   | 91.01 (-0.08)     |

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Bank of Scotland | 528.4p (+1.0p) |
| Schroder         | 300p (+25p)    |
| Vaux Group       | 500p (+25p)    |
| Tubory Group     | 383p (+13p)    |
| Low & Bonar      | 251p (+14p)    |
| Avon Rubber      | 820p (+10p)    |
| Wm Low           | 585p (+20p)    |
| Appleyard Group  | 421p (+20p)    |
| HJ Quirk         | 282p (+17p)    |
| Inchcape         | 727.5p (+19p)  |
| Polly Pack       | 252p (+17p)    |
| Racal Elect      | 243p (+10p)    |
| Time Products    | 191.5p (+11p)  |
| Conrad Holdings  | 82.5p (+10p)   |
| Capital Radio    | 204.5p (+10p)  |
| AAF Investment   | 138p (+10p)    |

## INTEREST RATES

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| London Bank Base      | 9%         |
| 3-month interbank     | 8.75-9.25% |
| 3-month bill          | 7.75-7.95% |
| 3-month rate          | 8.5%       |
| US Prime Rate         | 8.5%       |
| Federal Funds         | 6.75%      |
| 3-month Treasury Bill | 5.84-5.82% |
| 30-year bond          | 9.75-9.8%  |

## CURRENCIES

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| London        | New York       |
| £/\$ 1.8990   | \$/£ 0.5266    |
| £/DM 1.590    | DM/£ 0.6287    |
| £/Sfr 2.0092  | Sfr/£ 0.4977   |
| £/FF 10.275   | FF/£ 0.0973    |
| £/Yen 254.4   | Yen/£ 0.0039   |
| £/Index 78.8  | Index/£ 0.0127 |
| ECU 20.657882 | SDR 20.732687  |

## GOLD

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| London                                  | New York |
| AM \$454.00 pm \$454.25                 |          |
| close \$455.00-455.50 (\$229.75-240.25) |          |

## NORTH SEA OIL

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Brent (May) pm \$17.05bbl (\$16.75) |  |
| * Denotes latest trading price      |  |

## EQUITIES

|              |    |              |    |
|--------------|----|--------------|----|
| Bas Ramping  | 26 | Traded Opts  | 30 |
| Stockwatch   | 26 | Money Market | 32 |
| Temps        | 26 | Foreign Exch | 32 |
| Consent      | 27 | Unit Trads   | 32 |
| City Diary   | 27 | Commodities  | 32 |
| Wall Street  | 28 | USM Prices   | 32 |
| Stock Market | 30 | Share Prices | 33 |

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## Thirty years and £30m on for a growing firm



Looking ahead: Rod O'Donoghue, (left), George Turnbull and Sir David Orr of Inchcape yesterday (Photograph: Deniz McNeelance)

Surge in lending  
boosts sterling

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's credit boom continued last month, with lending by banks and building societies sharply higher. Strong growth in lending was a key factor in worse-than-expected money supply figures.

But the pound came under renewed upward pressure as dealers took the view that the Government would be reluctant to cut interest rates while lending continued to soar.

However, City analysts feel the authorities eventually may be forced to lower the cost of money to keep the rising pound from damaging Britain's export competitiveness.

The money supply rose strongly last month on all measures, highlighting the policy dilemma for the Treasury and the Bank of England.

The Bank announced that the M0 measure of money rose by 0.8 per cent while the broader M3 and M4 measures rose by 3.1 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively.

Bank lending rose by £4.7

billion, compared with a £2.6 billion rise in February, while bank and building society lending was up by £5.6 billion, after a £4.2 billion increase the previous month.

Treasury officials said the money supply figures did not point to a resurgence in inflation.

Sterling rose by half a cent to just below \$1.90, closing at \$1.8990 in London. It gained nearly a penny to DM3.1586 and the sterling index rose by 0.2 points to 78.8.

The Bank intervened modestly to slow sterling's rise, but this was quickly shrugged off.

"We are heading up to DM3.20 over the next couple of weeks and the authorities will have no choice but to cut base rates to 7½ per cent," said

Mr Keith Skeoch, an economist at James Capel, the broker.

Mr John Shepperd, an economist at Warburg Securities, said the figures would make the Bank of England even more keen to raise interest rates if sterling began to weaken.

The narrow money measure, M0, rose by 0.4 per cent in the 12 months to March, against an official target range of between 2 and 6 per cent. Its growth rate last month may have been boosted by the early Easter, officials said, but it is likely that growth will continue above the new 1 to 5 per cent target range for some months.

The Treasury gave greater emphasis to the M4 measure

of broad money, which includes most building society deposits. In the *Financial Statement and Budget Report*, published on March 15, its growth rate in the 12 months to March was 16.7 per cent, a record, but below the 20.7 per cent increase in M3.

Bank and building society lending may have been boosted by a rush to borrow for home improvements before the removal of tax relief at the end of last month. Borrowing by unmarried couples or other groups of individuals wishing to claim more than one tax relief on a property may be strong in the run-up to the removal of this relief on August 1.

Overall, however, the figures suggest that corporate borrowing has taken over the running from personal sector borrowing in the figures.

Figures from the Committee of London and Scottish Banks showed strong lending to property companies, service industries and manufacturing. Mortgage lending was strong but lending on credit cards was barely changed.

The official cyclical indicators, published yesterday, point to a slowdown in the economy over the next few months. The longer leading indicators, dominated by share prices and interest rates, fell slightly last month and have been broadly flat since November. The shorter leading indicators, signalling changes six months ahead, were unchanged in February, the latest month for which data is available, but have declined since last October. Official figures covering output, unemployment and retail sales have suggested moderation in growth rates.

Mail order boost  
for Littlewoods

By Michael Tate

Littlewoods, the Liverpool-based mail order and high street stores company, rang up sales of £1.46 billion in 1987, and lifted pretax profits from £70.1 million to £80.2 million.

Mr John Clement, the Unigate chief executive who acts as non-executive chairman of Littlewoods, says the home shopping division — second only to Great Universal Stores with around a quarter of the market — made £49.6 million before interest, £5 million more than before.

The 112 chain stores, including the two opened during the year, increased their pre-interest profit from £19.7 million to £25.7 million.

The pools operations, on which the group was built, contributed £14.4 million.

Littlewoods, which is Britain's biggest private company, invested £46.8 million on new stores, equipment, systems and services during the course of the year, compared with £34.6 million in 1986.

In February, the group printed half a million copies of its new home shopping catalogue, *Imagination*, in a move to stave off the growing challenge from high street retailers.

At the same time, it is rapidly expanding its Catalogue Shop division. Last year, 29 new outlets were opened, lifting the total to 33.

Mr Clement says that the group is also looking hard at television shopping opportunities.

Etam profits soar  
46% to £17.9m

By Carol Ferguson

Etam, the fashion retailer, had a bumper year last year. Pretax profits jumped 46 per cent to £17.9 million on turnover up 43 per cent to £114 million.

Growth in the established Etam and Tammy stores was particularly impressive. Of the 30 per cent increase in turnover for these stores, 20 per cent represented a volume jump in established stores, 9 per cent was attributable to new stores and 1 per cent to price inflation.

The remaining 13 per cent rise in turnover was attributable to the acquisition of the Peter Brown and Snob chains last year.

Etam had cash resources of £30 million at the year end as a result of last July's £33.6 million share issue. However,

Mr Rodney East, managing director, denied that he was looking for takeovers.

"Our philosophy is to get Snob and Peter Brown trading satisfactorily, and to grow through the development of Etam and Tammy. To make further acquisitions would create a smokescreen and divert our attention."

He said that neither Peter Brown nor Snob had been trading profitably at the time of acquisition, adding that Peter Brown's 28 menswear shops had not had a clear profit. But he said that they are now being more sharply focused, and the merchandise improved, and that Peter Brown was now in profit.

Snob, with 15 shops, is expected to be in profit this year.

Temps, page 26

Charity inquiry  
over sale of  
Henley Centre

By Lawrence Lever

The Charity Commission is investigating the purchase of the Henley Centre by its employees for £500,000 and its subsequent sale to WPP, the advertising agency, for a maximum of £18 million less than a year later.

The Henley Centre was a registered charity at the time that its employees purchased it and as such enjoyed the tax advantages of charitable status.

Its subsequent sale to WPP — for an initial £3 million and further payments linked to profits — prompted allegations that this status had been abused. These were strenuously denied by the Henley Centre.

However, a spokesman for the Charity Commission confirmed yesterday that the purchase and subsequent sale were being investigated. "We have started looking into it. We are trying to find out what actually happened," he said.

The spokesman added that the investigation was at a preliminary stage, but declined to comment further.

The Department of Inland Revenue is also likely to become involved. The Commissioners are expected to liaise with the Inland Revenue to discover what attitude it is taking.

The Commissioners have wide-ranging powers, which

would enable them to set aside the original sale of the Henley Centre to its employees. It can exercise these powers if it considers that the sale was at an under-value, or was not a genuine arm's length transaction.

The Henley Centre was represented by its council of management when its name and assets were sold to its employees for £500,000 last April.

A company called Tudor Street Consultants was used for its purchase. One of Tudor Street's founding directors was also the only full-time and paid director on the council.

Moreover, two other members of the council became directors and shareholders of Tudor once the company purchased Henley.

The sale to WPP was announced at the beginning of this month. When a document attacking the sale was circulated to the Press, Henley pointed out that the Commissioners had approved the purchase of the charity by its employees, and insisted that precautions had been taken to ensure it was an arm's length transaction.

Henley also pointed out that its subsequent growth was attributable to new business consultancy work which it could not have carried out as a registered charity.

Institutions cut  
foreign holdings

By Our Economics Correspondent

Britain's pension funds, insurance companies and other financial institutions were big sellers of foreign shares in the wake of Black Monday, but they continued to invest in the local stock market.

This is revealed by institutional investment figures for the fourth quarter, published yesterday by the Bank of England, which show a record disinvestment of £9.1 billion in overseas company securities by British institutions.

Of this sharp drop in overseas investments, £5.7 billion was due to a liquidation of holdings of foreign ordinary shares. As a result of the big fourth quarter disposals, institutional holdings of overseas company securities dropped by a total of £10.1 billion last year.

The annual dividend increases 29 per cent to 27p. Earnings per share rose from 50.2p to 73.7p.

The Bank, in a comment on the figures, said that the

"unprecedented" rundown of holdings of overseas securities was used by the institutions both to cut foreign borrowing and add to liquidity.

The institutions, surprisingly, continued to invest in the British market, committing £3.81 billion to ordinary shares in the fourth quarter, only slightly down on the £3.82 billion invested in the third quarter.

However, a large proportion of the fourth quarter investment was probably due to take-up by institutions of the first tranche of the BP privatization, partly as a result of underwriting commitments.

Building society deposits jumped to £5.88 billion in the fourth quarter, from £3.67 billion. But unit trust investments plunged from £2.93 billion to £508 million.

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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## £33m tax windfall for Brixton Estate

The changes in capital gains tax announced by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, in the Budget have produced a big windfall for Brixton Estate, the property group. The company would have faced a £49 million tax liability under the old system, but if all the investment properties were sold the figure would now drop to £16 million.

Brixton Estate yesterday announced a sharp jump in pretax profits for last year, from £10.7 million to £13.2 million. Net rental income went up from £22.8 million to £25.4 million. At the year-end the net asset value per share stood at 302p, an increase of 34.2 per cent. The company is now actively looking for more office and business park schemes in London and the South-east. The results pushed the shares up 11p to 286p.

## Maxwell in £5.8m deal

United Trade Press, part of Maxwell Communication Corporation, is paying £5.8 million for a 90 per cent stake in Patey Doyle (Publishing), a producer of 11 business and professional magazines. The vendors, Mr Roger Patey and Mr Tony Doyle, will be joint managing directors of the merged business.

## Kalamazoo in profit

Kalamazoo, the business systems group, has declared a pretax profit of £284,000 for the six months to end January, against the £576,000 loss of a year ago. Earnings are 0.6p a share, against an 0.6p loss last time, and an 0.5p interim dividend has been declared. The final will be not less than last year's 1.5p.

## AAH sells DIY chain

AAH, the fuel distributor and pharmaceuticals supplier, has sold Focus Homecentres, its do-it-yourself retailing operation, to Choice DIY, a small private company based in Birmingham. AAH will receive £3.2 million cash and a further payment that is equivalent to the working capital employed in the six stores, which is not expected to exceed £500,000.

The Focus Homecentres chain, which ranges from Exeter in the south west to Ashington in Northumberland, is peripheral to AAH's core distribution activities, the group said. These are centred on do-it-yourself supplies. The group also added that the disposal will remove potential areas of conflict.

## Telford move hits Epwin

Epwin Group, Devon's pvc window manufacturer, which raised £2.5 million through its USM flotation a year ago to help pay for its new Telford plant, found the Telford move holding back profits in 1987. The disruption cost £200,000 and so restricted pretax profits to £2.11 million (£1.83 million). The total dividend is 4.8p.

## CH arranges £30m facility

CH Industrials, the acquisitive chemicals and engineering group, has arranged a five-year, £30 million multiple option facility with its relationship banks. The facility was twice oversubscribed. The move does not represent any significant acceleration in the group's acquisition programme, it said.

## US unaware of 1992

Nearly four out of five influential Americans are unaware of EEC plans to eliminate trade barriers by 1992, according to a survey released this week. Five hundred businessmen, legislators, civil servants, journalists and academics were questioned by Cambridge Reports, the US polling firm.

The survey also found that 95 per cent of those polled think it likely American companies will intensify European marketing efforts in the next four years. Adams and Reinhardt, the New York public relations firm which commissioned the survey, said: "Awareness of today's most important European economic issue is shockingly limited among American opinion leaders, and the US public surely has no idea that there will soon be an integrated Common Market."

## Inchcape's B-team surges ahead

It is ironic that Inchcape experienced the strongest profits growth and margin improvement last year from the five of its 10 core divisions designated as less worthy of investment.

These profits grew by 18 per cent while operating margins widened from 6.1 per cent to 8.2 per cent. This compares with 8 per cent profits growth from companies in the "A" team where margins fell from 6.9 per cent to 6.4 per cent.

Indeed, perhaps the purpose of classifying the group's 10 core activities into "A" and "B" streams had more to do with motivating management than predicting future growth.

The trend may continue this year as the outlook for fast-track insurance services remains difficult.

While vehicle activities will continue to make steady progress, the other fast-track businesses — business machines, inspection and testing and buying services — remain small.

Thus 1988 could see another strong showing from marketing and distribution which contributes 15 per cent of operating profits. Nor should the outlook for commodity businesses deteriorate further.

Tighter financial controls and a more sophisticated treasury function are reaping rewards. Although Inchcape has had to learn to live with

currency movements, the £16 million shortfall at the pretax profits level last year — a significant deterioration on the 1986 figure — was offset by £3.5 million of gains.

Gearing has fallen from 70 per cent to 39 per cent of shareholders' funds and the return on average capital employed rose from 21.2 per cent to 29 per cent.

With a strong balance sheet, acquisitions will be easily accommodated although they are unlikely to be of significant size.

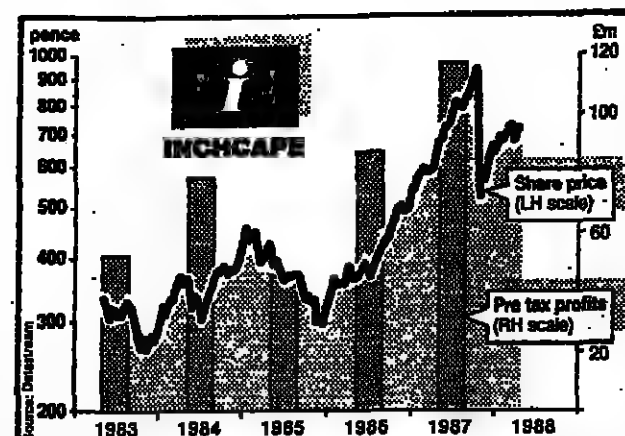
Inchcape has started the year well and is in confident mood. The sceptics may now be more attracted by an historic p/e ratio of 10 times falling to 8.5 times 1988 earnings. This is based on a pretax profits forecast of £130 million.

The shares are one of the traders' favourites especially in the results season, so the stock may now be in for a quieter time. But it is worth noting that the quality of earnings is still improving.

## Etam

By now, shareholders in Etam must be wondering why they stumped up £33.7 million in last July's placing, hours before the market peaked.

True, the group had capital expenditure of £14 million last year. It also made two acquisitions, Snob and Peter



Brown, for £12 million of which £5.4 million was in cash. And it paid off £2 million of debt in Peter Brown.

But this expansion has been predominantly self-financing, enabling the group to end the year with £30 million of its cash intact.

This year's capital expenditure plans are more ambitious than last year's. A planned 25 per cent increase in selling space will cost no less than £20 million. But, once more, this highly cash-generative business will be able to fund most of this internally, leaving £25 million in the kitty.

Nor is the money needed for acquisitions, for Etam denies any predatory ambitions. Indeed, last year's purchases of Peter Brown and Snob were something of a departure for

this conservatively managed company, although the territory was hardly unfamiliar.

Still aiming undeviatingly at the C2, D and E social groups, Peter Brown is targeted at Miss Etam's brother, the 20 to 30-year-old, fashion-conscious male. Snob is her late-teenage younger sister, filling the age gap between Tammy — for seven to 13-year-olds — and Etam.

The group has not started thinking in terms of opening multi-image stores, designed to appeal to three or all four of its target markets. Whether this will work or not remains to be seen, but the six planned for this year hardly constitute a high risk development. Etam and Tammy have successfully co-existed within single shops for years.

Meanwhile, the group is busy integrating its ac-

quisitions by refining and improving the merchandise. As a result, Peter Brown has returned to profitability, while Snob's losses have been significantly reduced.

This year it could be hard for Etam to repeat the astonishing 20 per cent volume increase through its established stores. Nevertheless, pretax profits should grow by 25 per cent to £22.5 million. The prospective multiple of 12.3 leaves the shares at an undesired 5 per cent discount to the market.

But with profits and earnings growing at this rate, why does it need all this cash?

## Hestair

American presidential candidates are not the only ones with their eyes on Washington. Hestair, in another expansion of its United States employment interests, is taking over Goodfriend in America's administrative capital in a move which will further underpin its overseas earnings.

The latest deal — coming with profits of Hestair for the year ended January 31, which at £13.3 million, against £7.3 million, were above expectations — helps set the tone for what promises to be another good year.

Hestair is already Britain's largest dust cart maker and after seven lean years is begin-

ning to make firm progress with its engineering interests, thanks to healthier profits from coach and bus activities. Engineering pretax profits rose from £1.8 million to £3.4 million.

But if the service division makes the headlines and the bulk of the profits, it would be wrong to overlook the consumer products division. At present, the base is centred on stationery and toys and collectively their profits advanced from £2.97 million to £3.48 million, the eighth successive year of progress.

Before too long — and with the help of a significant acquisition — sales from consumer product activities might well be jumping from £40 million to the £150 million mark.

The ongoing success of recently acquired businesses means that there is additional deferred consideration to be paid. In the case of the service companies, the additional payments are being satisfied by more shares, though with cash balances reasonably healthy, Hestair from here on has a choice of whether to fund further deals with money.

At 297p, the shares are on a prospective rating of 8.9. Ahead of further developments and organic growth, they are worth picking up.

## Programme pays off as Low beats half-time predictions

By Martin Waller

Wm Low & Company, the Dundee independent supermarket chain, yesterday produced forecast-beating figures for the first half to March 19, thanks to the group's development programme.

Pretax profits were up 33 per cent to £4.57 million. At the operating level, profits rose to £5.62 million from £4.06 million, lifting margins from 3.09 per cent to 4.06 per cent.

Analysts had been looking for pretax profits not much in excess of £4 million, and the shares surged ahead 20p to 583p on the stock market. The half-way dividend is raised by 0.5p to 5.5p.

Mr James Millar, the

managing director, said: "More of our business is now coming from the larger stores, and we've cleaned out the worst of the performers."

Sales grew by 10.5 per cent, allowing for 2.5 per cent inflation and for disposals, of which 8 per cent came from new store openings and the rest from higher sales at existing stores.

The recent convertible preference shares issue aroused criticism in some quarters as a possible "poison pill" — Low has long been considered a likely bid target — but it had the effect of wiping out borrowings.

"We have a very active development programme, and

we can keep going for several years without seeing the balance sheet getting stretched again," said Mr Millar.

"We want to develop at a rate faster than the generation of internal cash flow."

Four openings have taken place since September, with two more to follow before the year-end, along with an extension to the store at Blairgowrie, Tayside. By then the group will be trading from 720,000 square feet.

Professor Christopher Blake, the chairman, reported: "Current performance gives us good grounds for looking forward to another satisfactory full year's result."

## Triplex Lloyd spends £2.5m on new process

By Alison Eadie

Triplex Lloyd, the engineering, building components and services group, is investing £2.5 million in new casting technology.

The aluminium division of Triplex Alloys will be moved to a new site and the high technology precision casting process developed by Triplex Lloyd will be brought to full production.

Mr John Sharp, technical director of Triplex Lloyd, said aluminium was the metal of the future for the motor industry, and in sharpening the technology, the company was securing a stronger market position in Britain and overseas.

## \$1.3bn Tate offer rejected by Staley

Rolling Meadows, Illinois (AP) — Staley Continental, the United States maize processor, has rejected the unsolicited \$1.33 billion (£686 million) takeover bid by Tate & Lyle, the British sugar refiner.

Describing the offer as "inadequate," Staley's board recommended that the company's shareholders should not tender their shares to Tate & Lyle, which is offering to buy them for 32c each.

Mr Donald Nordlund, the chairman of Staley, said the company's board of directors had instructed the manage-

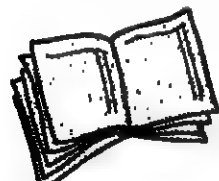
ment to explore alternative courses of action to enhance shareholder values.

He said alternatives could include a financial restructuring or recapitalization of the company, the sale of equity or other securities to a third party, the sale of all or part of the company, a joint venture or a leveraged buyout.

Tate & Lyle already owns 5 per cent of Staley. The acquisition would give the company a foothold in the US corn sweeter market and make it the only supplier of all three types of sugar — corn, beet and cane — in the United States.

Stock Market report ..... 30

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# Austin Reed sews up profits growth with £8.05 million

By Michael Tate

Austin Reed Group, the quality menswear manufacturer and retailer, lifted pretax profits by a third, from £6.1 million to £8.05 million, in the year to end-January, on turnover 9 per cent higher at £70.4 million.

Earnings per share were up from 14.1p to 18.7p, lifting the average advance over the past five years to 20 per cent. The final dividend is raised to 5.5p, making 8.5p for the year, against 6.5p last time.

Retail sales topped £53 million, with menswear continuing to boom but the new Options range for women, available in all 41 stores, improved, and accounted for 19 per cent of the retail turnover. Another store will open this year in Liverpool Street, in the City of London.

The four US shops, trading under the Cashmores of Scotland brand, were up to budget in the first seven months since their acquisition last year, says Mr Barry Reed, the chairman.

In the manufacturing division, more than half the £16.7 million turnover was exported. New product ranges were introduced, production facilities extended and further advances made in production processes. The clothing and shirt operations did particularly well, and knitwear is improving under its stronger management team.



Tailor-made results: Barry Reed, chairman, Reed, at the Regent Street store yesterday (Photograph: Graham Wood)

A new tailored women's collection will be launched this winter.

Licensing sales in the US improved to £34 million, but the weakness in the dollar left income static. The agreements

have been extended to include women's wear, leisurewear and accessories.

By contrast, the Japanese licensing agreement, which achieved sales of £14.9 million, benefited from currency movement.

Mr Reed, commenting on the figures yesterday, said: "We aim to strengthen Austin Reed's position as the UK's leading retailer of quality clothing. We are undertaking a shopfitting and re-siting programme, opening new stores

and expanding into women's wear."

On the wholesale side, the group will further increase its production capacity, and has plans to strengthen its brand names and develop new products.

## COMMENT

### Buoyant sterling rides headlong for a fall

Perverse economics, not for the first time, ruled in the markets yesterday. The March money supply figures were bad. The authorities were judged to be even more reluctant to cut interest rates. The pound rose in response and, lo and behold, after a decent interval, interest rates will no doubt be reduced.

Lately, even the gloomiest monetary statistics are usually improved by the performance of M0, the Government's tame, and for this reason targeted, monetary aggregate.

But yesterday's figures showed that even the M0 worm has turned. Its 6.4 per cent growth rate in the 12 months to March was above the 2 to 6 per cent target range which applied in 1987-88 and out of sight of the new 1 to 5 per cent range. Even the early Easter may not fully explain away M0's acceleration, which would be an expected consequence of lower interest rates.

As for the broader monetary aggregates, they show that Goodhart's Law is alive and well. The Treasury gave more prominence to the M4 measure of money in the Budget documents, a measure which includes a large element of building society deposits.

It may be that they chose to do so at the very time when the building societies are claiming back a share of both the mortgage and savings markets, as building society figures due today should confirm. The growth rate of M4 in the 12 months to March, a record 16.7 per cent, was below the 20.7 per cent increase in M3, but the gap is narrowing.

All of which highlights the Government's dilemma. Credit is rising at a rate which even the best efforts of the Treasury cannot disguise as anything less than extremely worrying. It is not enough to say that the rise in personal lending is all right because it is mainly in mortgages, unless the thinking is that the housing market is somehow not part of the wider economy.

There is some comfort to be drawn from the fact that, in total, most of the recent lending increase has been to companies, including, on the clearing bank figures, a £600 million rise in loans to property companies last month. But if companies are borrowing simply to finance high pay settlements, then even this silver lining is not what it first appears.

The March money supply figures may have increased the level of sterling at which the authorities will bow to pressure from the currency markets and allow a cut in base rates. The next focus of the markets is on the DM3.20 level, although the one thing we can be fairly sure of is that the Bank will not allow the idea of a convenient round number as a sterling ceiling.

The bubble that is lifting sterling, even on bad economic news, will inevitably burst, and probably sooner rather than later. When it does, it will be amid a wave of nostalgia for the sterling and interest rate stability of last year.

### Still waters run deep

The 28 private sector companies that supply a quarter of British water used to be the calmest backwater on the stock exchange. It was quietly fished only by Seymour Pierce, the brokers who sold insurance companies a succession of preference shares for the statutory companies, which could only pay fixed dividends. The likelihood that they will be able to convert into conventional plc's when the nationalized water authorities are privatized has changed all that. The backwater is now murky and foaming.

French companies, sometimes with British partners such as Trafalgar House, have dominated the rush to build strategic stakes. Share prices have multiplied, making yields look ridiculous on the present basis. That is partly because rising profits could then be paid to shareholders, partly because many have valuable land for development and expertise for export, and most of all because privatized authorities might gobble them up.

This aggression has spilled over in the first full takeover in the sector. It presents the Takeover Panel with a tricky problem. There seems little doubt that Rule 8 (3) of the panel's rules was not fully complied with in the heat of the moment. Reporting a 1 per cent stake quickly in a takeover situation might not seem the most serious breach. But this was one of the new requirements brought into to modernise the rules to take account of changing tactics, after the Panel had come under heavy criticism in the wake of the Distillers affair.

The Panel is taking this bizarre affair seriously. It will need to demonstrate that when it adjudicates.

## Hestair in \$11.9m deal for US agency

By Colin Campbell

Hestair, the employment services and consumer products group, is acquiring another US employment agency in a \$11.95 million (£5.34 million) deal.

Hestair, which also has interests in the manufacture of coaches and buses, is making a vendor placing at 270p each, at the same time.

The group is buying the Goodfriend Group of Washington DC. It is the fourth US acquisition by the service division within a year.

Hestair now operates from 130 US branches and anticipates US sales in this financial year to top \$225 million.

The group achieved pretax profits of £13.35 million in the

year ended January 31, on a turnover of £216.8 million. Pretax profits in the previous year were £7.33 million, on sales of £135.2 million.

The final dividend is being raised to 3.4p a share making 5.4p for the year — a 20 per cent increase.

Deferred considerations for earlier acquisitions are now due, and Hestair is issuing 5.39 million shares, of which 5.25 million are being issued via the vendor placing at 270p each.

A clawback provision on the basis of four-for-37 is offered to ordinary shareholders.

Hestair shares yesterday eased by 2p to 287p. *Timespan, page 26*

## Hoechst and Boots in US joint venture

Boots and Hoechst Celanese have formed a joint venture to market bulk Ibuprofen, the painkiller discovered by Boots in the 1960s, in the United States.

The product was granted over-the-counter status in Britain and the US in 1983.

The new venture will involve the building of a new production facility in America, using Hoechst Celanese production technology.

The product is already the world's third most popular medicine, in terms of tonnage. Boots supplies 3,400 tonnes to the world market.

Ibuprofen is produced under licence at present in the United States, where it has taken a \$2.7 billion (£1.42 billion) share of the market.

## Grampian TV in profits warning

By Carol Ferguson

Grampian Television, which gave warning of a possible drop in profits at the half-year stage, yesterday revealed pretax profits of £1.48 million, compared with £1.76 million in the previous year.

This is the second consecutive year in which profits have declined.

The company blames the drift of advertising to the south of the country, resulting in Grampian earning a lower share of national advertising revenue.

Earnings for the ordinary and non-voting "A" shares slipped to 6.49p, compared with 7.78p, but the dividend for the year was increased 0.2p to 2.5p net.

The shares gained 7p, rising to 227p.

Grampian has started commissioning independents to produce a proportion of its local programmes. This, in turn, has created spare programme-making capacity which Grampian intends to market to independent producers.

There will also be staff reductions through natural wastage.

## Retailers welcome new debit card

By Richard Thomson

High street retailers yesterday welcomed the new Switch debit card — launched by a consortium of three clearing banks — as being cheaper and more flexible than the two debit cards already launched.

National Westminster, Midland and the Royal Bank of Scotland have clubbed together to offer the Switch card on a fully electronic system. The two earlier cards — Connect from Barclays and a so far unnamed card from Lloyds — are both paper-based at present, using the same voucher system as credit cards. The Switch card is a new independent system while Barclays' and Lloyds' cards are part of the Visa network.

Mr Richard Weir, director general of the Retail Consortium, said: "We are enthusiastic about Switch. It will be cheaper than Connect for retailers to use. The banks involved have clearly learnt from the problems of Connect."

The retailers like the way the new card allows them to negotiate with the banks involved on an individual basis, rather than following an existing charging structure as Barclays and Lloyds have tried to do with their Visa-linked cards.

Retailers also favour a card which has specifically been designed to fit into the EFTPOS nationwide electronic shopping system currently being developed. Mr Weir said: "We are concerned

that the debit cards under the Visa system may be difficult to bring into EFTPOS."

Retailers believe it is essential for debit cards to work electronically. They report that the usage of Connect is low.

The retailers say that because the card still depends on paper vouchers they are no more efficient or convenient for customers to use than cheques or credit cards. "With a fully electronic system, Switch will have the advantage of speed and convenience," Mr Weir said.

The banks in the Switch card scheme are now negotiating individually with retailers over how much they will pay for the use of the card system. The aim is to match this

charge with the rates retailers pay on cheque transactions — roughly 16p a cheque.

This is in contrast to Connect which first tried to charge retailers the much higher credit card rates. Although Barclays backed down after protests, the Retail Consortium still believes shops are paying an average of about 20p per Connect transaction.

The new Lloyds card is also causing resentment because retailers feel it has been foisted on them unexpectedly. All Visa merchants are obliged to accept Visa cards. Many merchants, however, had just agreed complex packages with Barclays over the pricing of its Connect and Barclaycard services, when the Lloyds card was launched under another set of Visa charges.

## One more into the breach

For the first time since Black Monday, a new City stockbroker firm is being set up. Hemley & Co Securities, which intends to be a specialist private client firm, obtained Stock Exchange approval yesterday, and goes into business on Monday.

The brainchild of erstwhile Lloyds underwriter Oliver Hemley, aged 25, who is to be its managing director, there will be three other executive directors: Simon Jessel, aged 26, a salesman with Strauss Turnbull until a month ago, Colin "The Snake" Wright, aged 45, a former senior dealer at Chase Manhattan, and a third man who can not yet be identified but is, I am told, 62 years old and also a Lloyds underwriter. Hemley tells me: "We don't think private investors are being offered a fair deal. We are aiming primarily at the private client who feels he no longer receives a personal service from his existing broker. Larger firms are finding that private client business is no longer profitable. But our overheads are lower and we hope to sop that up." The firm, which will have its settlement handled by an outside agency, Security Settlement, has been established with £500,000 capital invested by friends and clients. It already has £5 million under discretionary management — "We've got a lot of business from contacts at Lloyds," says Hemley, and expects to make £500,000 from commissions in its first year.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Royal flaw on the floor

My, how times have changed... Yesterday was the Queen's birthday but, for the first time in living memory, the national anthem, traditionally played across the floor of the Stock Exchange at 11am — with all market-makers standing dutifully to attention — was not to be heard. A handful of

equity and gilt traders who had deliberately popped down to the floor, just for old times sake, were apparently bitterly disappointed. But, as one old stager remarked: "Those young bratted options dealers (who now inhabit a large part of the floor) probably wouldn't have stood to attention anyway."

### Aker stays

An end at last to the saga of tug-of-war advertising analyst Chris Aker. The much sought-after 23-year-old has, I hear, decided to stay with his present firm, Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, after all. His change of heart, which came after he had signed a two-year contract with prospective new employer Kleinwort Grie-

veson, and mailed "change of address" letters to some 200 clients, has, I hear, infuriated KG. Although it has now decided not to hold him to his contract, there is no longer any chance that he could change his mind yet again. For their job offer has, I am assured, been very definitely withdrawn. As one KG insider put it: "We never want to see him again."

### Litter bugging

The Government's statistics for prosecutions of litter laws, announced in the House of Commons yesterday, revealed that the paper-strewn City of London brought only one prosecution for leaving litter in 1986. That contrasted with 220 brought by the county of Cumbria. In England and Wales as a whole 1,340 men were convicted, 84 women, and one "other". A careless hermaphrodite? No, a company (but not a City one). But corporate tidiness is, it seems, improving. In 1985, four companies were convicted.

Carol Leonard



"The last thing my stockbroker expected was his wife and children, closely followed by himself"

## DIAMOND SERVICE

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| 1530                 | 1730                 |
| 1730                 | 1930                 |
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THE MOST WEEKDAY FLIGHTS BETWEEN HEATHROW AND AMSTERDAM.

## BRITISH MIDLAND



**By Alexandra Jackson**

The strongest growth came from the group's converting and wholesaling activities, where trading profits rose from £1.9 million to £2.8 million. The introduction of several new licensing arrangements, primarily in America,

In the Netherlands, management changes have done little to improve profitability as losses increased from £149,000 to £504,000. However, the group remains committed to this market.

The company said the results were disappointing, giv-

Airtech is continuing to give cause for concern, despite "strong measures" taken to rectify the situation, the company added. The total dividend was 7p (6.5p).

**From Richard Owen  
Brussels**

**There was a danger that**



The December package provided for discount and deen-

The scheduled fare between London and Munich was £400 return, but Air Europe was challenging Lufthansa by offering the route for less than £200.

● Singapore — Prices closed narrowly mixed after selected bargain-hunting alternated with bouts of profit-taking in lethargic trading. The *Straits Times'* industrial index rose 6.01 points to 944.49.

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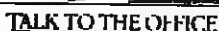
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STREET

by 17 points  
g dealings

● Tokyo — Shares closed  
after an overnight drop in  
Wall Street and because of  
absence of fresh positive  
news, while some positive  
was seen after Wednesday  
gains. The Nikkei down  
lost 35.93 points to 26,421.14

● Singapore — Prices  
narrowly mixed after  
bargain-hunting, altered  
with hours of profit-taking  
leverage trading. The  
times industrial index  
5.01 points to 944.49.

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UNITED KINGDOM TRUST  
4 For the Year Ended 31 December 1987

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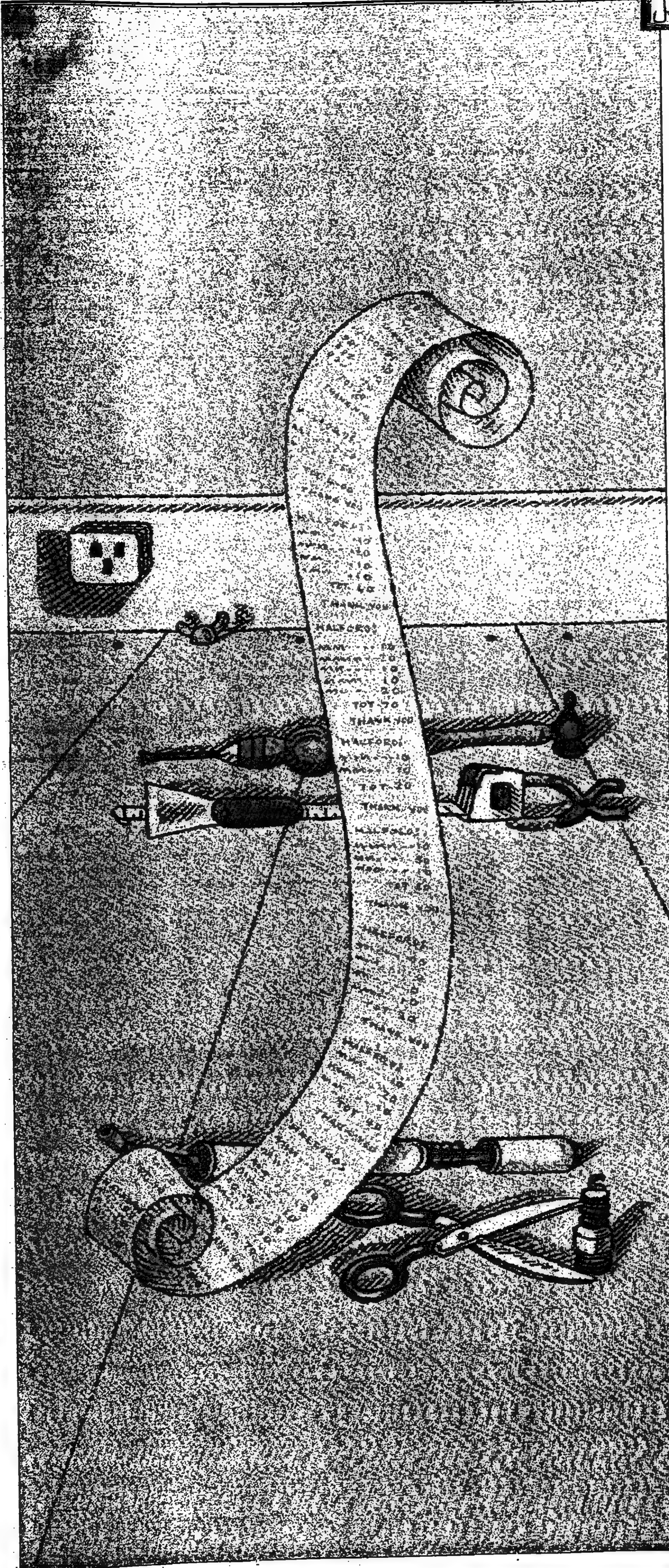
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## ANOTHER RECORD YEAR FOR WARD WHITE.

### TURNOVER

£755 MILLION UP 35%

### PRE-TAX PROFIT

£65.5 MILLION UP 59%

### EARNINGS PER ORDINARY SHARE

30.8p UP 29%

### DIVIDENDS PER ORDINARY SHARE

8.75p UP 17%

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THE BUSINESS OF GROWTH

The Directors of Ward White Group plc are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) such information is an accurate and true statement and does not contain anything likely to affect the import of such information.

This advertisement is issued by Emery Hartwell Limited on behalf of Ward White Group plc.



# Shares ignore lending gloom

The company said it had had a successful spring, and autumn order books were at record levels. The final dividend was increased to 8.5p from 7p. There was no interim dividend.



said: "Grand Metropolitan has one of the strongest teams of non-executive directors in Britain. This ensures a proper check and balance within the board and also gives the executive board the benefit of the experience and judgement of leading British and American businessmen."

He joins other leading figures such as Sir John Harvey-Jones, the deputy chairman,

Mr. Allen Sheppard, the chairman and chief executive,

executive board the benefit of the experience and judgement of leading British and American businessmen."

As the prospect of another cut in interest rates faded, gilt-edged stocks drifted down to close with falls ranging to £¼. Royal, the electronics group

east, extended this week's strong run with a 24p rise to 569p, reviving bid hopes. But it appears that the reason for the flurry is that one market-maker has got into a pickle after finding himself short of stock.

Beazer Group, Mr Brian Beazer's housebuilding and construction concern, which emerged as the holder of an 11.5 per cent shareholding in Wimpey earlier this year, was immediately named as a possible bidder.

Handley Walker, the management consultant, believes that the group will easily lift pretax profits from £32.6 million to £40 million this year and has already pencilled in £45 million for 1989.

the talked-of dawn raid on Storehouse, the British Home Stores and Habitat-Mothereaux retailing group, failed to materialize.

The shares of Sir Terence Conran's group soared to 300p in hectic, late trading on

Still in the stores sector, Boots, the chemist, rose by 4p to 226p as dealers began to take the view that the shares were due for a re-rating.

Boots announced yesterday that it is teaming up with Hoechst, the West German pharmaceuticals group, to produce and market ibuprofen, the painkilling drug, in the US. A market which, Boots believes, has expanded by about 25 per cent in the last two years.

**Michael Clark and  
Geoffrey Foster**

### RESULTS for the year ended 31 December

**Prospects for 1988** Excellent opportunities for further expansion. Profits will advance substantially in our centenary year.

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## International investors in commercial property

|                                | 1987<br>£'000 | 1986<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Net Rental Income              | 25,419        | 22,850        |
| Profit before Taxation         | 13,204        | 10,764        |
| Earnings per Share             | 11.94p        | 9.79p         |
| Value of Investment Properties | £414 million  | £344 million  |
| Net Asset Value                | £249 million  | £185 million  |

- 11.2% increase in net rental income.
- 22.7% increase in profit before tax.
- 34.2% increase in net asset value.
- Final dividend of 4.80p per Ordinary Share proposed, making a total dividend for the year of 7.80p per share – an increase of 20.0%.
- Valuation surplus on completed and let properties – £61.7 million.

The above figures constitute an abridged version of the year's results. The full accounts which will be posted to shareholders on 20th May 1988 have not yet been reported on by the Auditors. They will be filed with the Registrar of Companies following the Annual General Meeting to be held on 22nd June 1988.

## Brixton Estate

| First Dealings<br>April 18  | Last Dealings<br>April 29 | Last Declaration<br>July 14 | For Settlement<br>July 25 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <p><b>Cat</b> <i>replaces</i> <i>was taken out of</i> 214/88 Bristol Channel, Norfolk Capital, PLM, Kentish Property, Control Securities, Smith &amp; Nephew, North Kentish Mines, Explora, BONS, Dares Estates, Cons Tum, Amber Day, Astra Holdings, Electronic Machine, Edin Financial Trust Wks, Blacka Leisure.</p> <p>Price &amp; Credit: BP not sold.</p> |                           |                             |                           |

| <b>EQUITIES</b>        |                                  |                            |                                 |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AAM Healthcare (\$15p) | 286 -6                           | Report Hostile (14p)       | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$                |
| Acacia Oil             | 109                              | RiverBanc Am Inc           | 102                             |
| Anchor (AJ) (130p)     | 161                              | Sawada Gas                 | 155                             |
| Assoc Nursing          | 136                              | Shafsbury (Am)             | 105                             |
| Auklet Ace (85p)       | 101                              | Shomo McGraw (Am)          | 835                             |
| BK                     | 94                               | Shunko                     | 100                             |
| B&W CO (52p)           | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ | TGI (180p)                 | 135 +2                          |
| Ent Pet P/P            | 95-1                             | Tison Hds (80p)            | 100                             |
| Central Motor (80p)    | 95-1                             | Total Systems              | 85                              |
| Dudley Jenkins (85p)   | 105                              | UK Paper (135p)            | 140                             |
| Fremont Co             | 220                              | Vesper Thermo (160p)       | 181                             |
| Gardner (DC)           | 151 -2                           |                            |                                 |
| Hendley Walker         | 138                              | <b>RIGHTS ISSUES</b>       |                                 |
| Holders Tech (140p)    | 141 +1                           | Congest NP (1p)            | 11 +3                           |
| K Hughes (HT)          | 75                               | F&H NP                     | 41 +1                           |
| L&L (85p)              | 120                              | Klen-E-S-A NP              | 20 -10                          |
| Saltrapops (52p)       | 81                               | Luxon NP                   | 23 -4                           |
| Lon Forsting (160p)    | 100 +1                           | Penniman NP                | 30 -1                           |
|                        |                                  | System Des NP              | 21 -2 $\frac{1}{2}$             |
| MTL Inst New           | 75 +1                            | Welch NP                   | 35 -2                           |
| New West Mgmt New      | 83 -1                            | Wisdoms (J) NP             | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Norfolk Ashby (85p)    | 92 -2                            | (Issue price in brackets). |                                 |
| Norfolk House (100p)   | 108                              |                            |                                 |
| Pennine Optical        | 48                               |                            |                                 |
| Precision Procs        | 518 -1                           |                            |                                 |

| Name         | Cable |     |     |     |     | Radio |     |     |     |     | Cable        |      |      |     |     | Radio |     |     |     |     |    |
|--------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|------|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
|              | Jan   | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jan   | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jan          | Feb  | Mar  | Apr | May | Jan   | Feb | Mar | Apr | May |    |
| Mike Lynn    | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | Glenn        | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
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| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
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| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50   | 77  | 113 | 33    | 50  | 56  | 60  | 64  | 68 |
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| W. H. (1412) | 393   | 57  | 67  | -   | 7   | 10    | 21  | 27  | 35  | 45  | W. H. (1703) | 1850 | 50</ |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |    |

[illegible]

**By Martin Walker**

Amer Group, the diversified Finnish consumer conglomerate, made pretax profits of 166 million Finnish marks (£22.03 million) in the six months to the end of February, up from 141 million marks last time and an increase of 18 per cent.

But the increase was outstripped by the rise in sales, which climbed 57 per cent to 2,537 million Finnish marks.

The company blames the discrepancy on the decreased proportion of its manufacturing business, compared with its growing involvement in properties and securities investment.

## PROGRESS CONTINUES

|   | YEAR ENDED<br>31.12.84<br>DM | YEAR ENDED<br>31.12.83<br>DM |        |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| GROSS PROFIT  | 10002                        | 8676                         | +15.3% |
| PROFIT BEFORE TAX<br>AND MINORITIES                       | 7164                         | 6667                         | +7.5%  |
| EARNINGS PER SHARE  | 22.1p                        | 20.2p                        | +9.4%  |
| <i>Note: Adjusted for 5 for 1 share split in May 1987</i> |                              |                              |        |
| ORDINARY DIVIDENDS<br>PER SHARE                           |                              |                              |        |
| — Interim   | 0.4p                         | —                            |        |
| — Proposed final  | 3.0p                         | 0.4p                         |        |
| Total   | 3.4p                         | 0.4p                         |        |

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*John Southwell, Chairman 21st April 1988*

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# loom

Dealers claim that there is no smoke without fire and still believe that a bid is on the way to buy the group's results at the beginning of June.

Analysts remain worried about Mothercare, which the group's biggest shareholder, Mr Zak Keshavjee, an analyst at SBCI Savory, has said that the group's profits from last year's 1987 to 1988 will be £11.1 million to £11.3 million.

The shares attracted lots of attention and touched 130 before closing unchanged at 134 on a turnover of nearly 1 million shares.

One dealer remarked that the market has neglected the fact that the group is a holding company and seems to have been at a loss to find a way of managing 10 per cent of the company and are dependent on getting their hands on the shares.

Share reports figures on May 1 and analysts are forecasting profits of about £20 million against £21.7 million.

Still in the stores sector, Boots, the chemist, rose by 4p to 25p as dealers began to use the view that the shares were due for a re-rating.

Boots announced yesterday that it is teaming up with Hibernia, the West German pharmaceuticals group, to produce and market drugs in the U.S. A market which Boots believes is worth about 25 per cent of the total market.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

**Amer Group tops £22m as sales rise 57%**

By Martin Waller

The overall performance of the company was excellent, with profits of £22 million, a 57 per cent increase on the £14 million of the previous year.

The company's sales rose by 57 per cent to £22 million, a record for the company.

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## Acquisitive Epicure lifts profit to £1.26m

By Joe Joseph

Epicure, the Swedish-controlled construction and engineering group, lifted pretax profits from £712,000 to £1.26 million in 1987, helped by acquisitions in Britain and Sweden over the past year.

More are under negotiation, to be financed by the sale of development land and surplus properties. The £2.8 million raised in last May's rights issue has been used to finance last year's acquisitions and reduce gearing.

The latest results have been merger-accounted to include figures for Standard Piston Ring, the marine piston ring maker acquired in September. SP's results have been consolidated as if the companies had been combined throughout last year.

Epicure's engineering sector accounted for 70 per cent of last year's £34 million turnover. The painting and specialist civil engineering companies have recovered after a poor start to the year.

Earnings per share grew from 1.85p to 2.76p and a final dividend of 0.5p makes 0.75p for the year, up from 0.30p.

## Savage to buy French DIY firms

By Our City Staff

Savage Group, the USM-quoted hardware manufacturer, has agreed to buy two French makers of do-it-yourself and homecare products. The move will push its proportion of overseas sales over 50 per cent.

The initial consideration for the Habitat and Triplex companies - which have no connection with the British concerns of the same name - will be FF77.9 million (£7.28 million), to be funded by a placing of convertible preference shares at £1 each and an open offer to shareholders.

In return, Savage will receive an immediate 32 per cent holding in Triplex, which itself will have 49 per cent of Habitat after the deal.

Savage will then buy the outstanding shares in Triplex over the next seven years, at a price related to future profits.

The placing will raise £14.4 million by the issue of 15.13 million preference shares, to be offered back to existing shareholders.

## Johnston Press to expand in South-east after float

By Martin Waller

Johnston Press, based in Edinburgh, is promising an assault on the "soft underbelly" of the local newspaper industry in the prosperous South-east. The company, which owns 29 paid-for weekly papers nationwide and 21 free sheets, is coming to the stock market via a placing by Hill Samuel.

Johnston is keen to expand further after its entry into the South of the West Sussex County Times Group for £3.8 million. Its latest purchase, however, was the *Chesford Gazette* this month for £350,000.

"We've only scratched the surface. There's a very wide and expanding market out there," Mr Iain Bell, the managing director, said yesterday.

Mr Fred Johnston, the chairman, added: "There are a number of companies we have been chatting up. They are aware of our interest in them." The group is not, however, involved in any negotiations at present.

The company was founded in 1767 by Mr Johnston's great-great-grandfather. It estimates its share of the weekly paid-for market at about 5.4 per cent and that of the free sheets at 2 per cent.



Looking out for acquisitions: Marco Chiappelli (left), Fred Johnston (centre) and Iain Bell

Pretax profits increased from £938,000 in 1983 to £3.03 million last year, with seven acquisitions over that period.

Mr Marco Chiappelli, the finance director, said gearing, which has soared from its year-end level of 50 per cent after the two acquisitions, will fall to 25 per cent once the listing is completed.

Hill Samuel is placing 6.11 million shares at 122p each, valuing the group at £29 million. Four million new shares are included, with the balance being sold by the existing shareholders who are members of the Johnston family.

But the chairman, his two brothers and their immediate family interests, holding 14.03

million shares, are not selling. They will control 59 per cent of the company after the placing.

Dealings are expected to start next Friday.

The placing price represents a price earnings multiple of 13.2 times, based on 1987 profits and an actual tax charge of 36.4 per cent.

## China firm bought for £2.8m

By Robert Rodwell

Powerscreen International, the Northern Irish manufacturer of quarrying equipment, has announced the purchase of one of Ulster's best-known exporters.

Powerscreen, which acquired control of British Benzol, its parent, in a reverse takeover nearly two years ago, has paid £2.8 million for the whole share capital of Belleek Pottery, the County Fermanagh village company, which has been manufacturing the Parian range of translucent china for more than 150 years.

Belleek, which employs 140 people, can now expect a period of sustained, financially sound growth, Mr Pat Dougan, the chief executive of Powerscreen, said.

The pottery was purchased from Mr Roger Troughton, the majority owner, and Allied Irish Banks, which owned a 30 per cent stake.

Powerscreen, an international leader in stone-screening equipment which exports to 70 countries, was established more than 20 years ago.

The Dunganon company has an annual turnover of £50 million and expects to register a record profit this year of about £11 million.

## Research chief attacks 'illogical' retail takeovers

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Some takeovers in the retail sector lack logic and do little for trade or customers, the chairman of a leading market research group said yesterday.

Opening a conference on "Successful Strategies in Retailing" in London, Mr Richard Eassie, of Verdict Research, said although some takeovers had been undoubted successes, including Ratoers which has modernized the jewellery trade and Dixons' development of Currys, others were less successful.

"There is much less to be said for mergers such as that of Asda and MFI and for the building up of conglomerates which lack retailing logic," he said.

Others had been worthwhile experiments, even if they had not always worked out, and companies that tried new ideas rather than those that never did anything innovative were more likely to prosper, he said.

Original ideas for retailing were more likely to lead to success rather than straightforward acquisition. "Many of

the country's largest retailers have started from scratch within the space of a generation. Although most of them are now part of larger groups, the advance of companies such as Asda, Argos, Kwik Save, Mothercare, Superdrug and B&Q came through organic growth based on original concepts rather than via acquisition," he said.

Mr Eassie also criticized modern retailers for taking decisions based on second rate data which was inaccurate and inadequate even though many entrepreneurs of the past had been tremendously successful using intuition rather than systems.

Argyll Foods' decision to convert its Presto stores into Safeway branches has produced an increase in profits of 100 per cent on sales up 55 per cent, Mr Peter Howitt of Argyll told the conference.

The original estimate was that there would be a 51 per cent sales improvement and a 75 per cent profits boost. Ten stores have been converted since the acquisition of the Safeway chain in 1987 and a further 181 Presto stores will be converted to Safeway in the next four years.

## Smaller firms 'ignorant about rating reforms'

By Colin Narborough

Nearly two thirds of the country's smaller and medium-sized companies appear unaware of the dramatic implications that rating reforms due in 1990 will have on their costs, according to Herring Son & Daw, the property valuer.

A survey commissioned by the company and published today shows that central London, where rates bills on prime property could treble, is, surprisingly, the area least aware of what the property revaluation and uniform business rate will mean financially. The North-east is the next worst informed.

Mr Nick Owen, Herring Son & Daw's chairman, notes that Britain's largest firms have already started to take steps to prepare for the changes, but the findings for small and medium-sized businesses, which form the heart of industry, are "very worrying".

He said the lack of knowledge and understanding was

astonishing in an era of cost-conscious management, as the revaluation and national non-domestic rate would in many cases have a "devastating effect on occupiers' costs."

His company's analysis of cost impact of the rating reform shows new buildings and retailing, especially greenfield sites, being hardest hit, with the South-east seeing the highest regional rate increases.

Rates on prime shops in Oxford Street, London, are expected to rise 227 per cent, good period buildings in Covent Garden 200 per cent, and Soho 125 per cent.

But while prime City sites would rise by 60 per cent, rate bills across the Thames in Southwark are expected to drop by 18 per cent.

The migration this could provoke in London is illustrated by detailed figures that show the gap between rent plus rates per square foot in the City and neighbouring Tower Hamlets widening

from £6 now to £20 in 1990.

The companies polled, which had annual turnover of between £1 million and £20 million, equally represented the manufacturing and service sectors. But being unaware of the cost implications did not mean they were ignorant of the planned changes in non-domestic rates. About 83 per cent knew of the reforms.

Firms in the Midlands, Greater London, and the South-east appear best informed of the potential impact of 1990.

About two thirds of the aware companies, have appointed rating advisers to work out the cost implications and seek advice on rating.

Herring Son & Daw expects the uniform poundage to be set at about 38 per cent in 1990. The increase in rates bills will arise from the preceding revaluation of commercial properties' rateable values - the first for 17 years.

## Strong regulator for electricity urged

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The electricity industry will need a powerful regulatory body to prevent it becoming inefficient and stop costs to the consumer rising once it moves into the private sector.

This is the view of the Association for the Conservation of Energy, which says that a powerful regulator would make the new companies more successful and benefit customers and shareholders.

The association has produced a report, *Regulating for Efficiency*, investigating regulatory authorities in the United States.

Yesterday, Mr Andrew Warren, the association's director, said: "This report should finally kill off some of the myths and misconceptions about the US experiences in regulation which have improperly gained some currency in Britain."

"The allegation that the US regulatory system restricts the ability of utility managements to manage efficiently could not be further from the mark. Rather, it can assist them substantially."

The US system has been attacked by Mr Michael

Spicer, the Under Secretary of State for Energy, as being too bureaucratic, being based on the regulation of profits, involving interference on too many levels, and stifling innovation.

However, the association says: "In the US there is a considerable body of experience of both public and private ownership of utilities."

"It is unfortunate that a number of myths, untruths and misconceptions about US experiences have arisen, and have improperly gained some currency in Britain."

"The lesson which clearly emerges from our studies of public utility commissions is that there is a strong correlation between states where powerful interventionist, purposeful, regulatory authorities exist, and the existence of gas and electricity utilities which operate efficiently and in the best interests of their customers."

"The converse appears to be even more true. Weak, hands-off regulation has permitted costly inefficiencies, to the detriment of customers and shareholders alike."

### APPOINTMENTS

Chartered Trust: Mr Ian Paterson will become chairman from next Thursday and Mr Tony Webb has been appointed managing director.

Anglia Television: Mr Peter Gibbins is now chairman.

International Commercial Bank: Sir Michael Sandberg has been appointed chairman.

John Sutcliffe (Shipping): Mr James Sutcliffe has been made chairman.

SD-Scicon: Mr Robin Gill has been appointed a non-executive director. Mr Warren Werblow, Mr Christopher Tendell and Mr André Ronet have joined the board.

Multi-Arc (UK): Mr Alan Stevenson is now chairman and chief executive.

March Computer Systems: Mr Geoffrey Lawson has been made a non-executive director.

Save & Prosper: Mr Christopher Wiscarson has joined the boards of Save & Prosper Group and Save & Prosper Insurance.

Alba: Mr Bill Cortes is to join the board as a non-executive director.

### BASE LENDING RATES

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| ABN                    | 8.00% |
| Adam & Company         | 8.00% |
| BCCI                   | 8.00% |
| Consolidated Crds      | 8.00% |
| Co-operative Bank      | 8.00% |
| C. Hoare & Co          | 8.00% |
| Hong Kong & Shanghai   | 8.00% |
| Lloyds Bank            | 8.00% |
| Nat Westminster        | 8.00% |
| Royal Bank of Scotland | 8.00% |
| TSB                    | 8.00% |
| Citibank NA            | 8.00% |



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meet increased demand and direct exports reached £11m.

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**DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000**  
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**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings began April 11. Dealings end today. \$Contango day April 25. Settlement day May 3.  
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 30).

[illegible]

|     |                 |     |     |    |       |     |      |
|-----|-----------------|-----|-----|----|-------|-----|------|
| 148 | King & Shannon  | 187 | 192 | -  | 18.2  | 5.0 | 93   |
| 321 | Klumporn Benson | 380 | 387 | +2 | 18.1  | 6.6 | 47   |
| 237 | Lloyds (na)     | 273 | 275 | +2 | 2.5   | 5.2 | 62   |
| 45  | Lon Scott (a)   | 36  | 48  | +1 | 27.5  | 7.1 | 51   |
| 368 | Macdonald (na)  | 365 | 390 | -2 | 14.9  | 5.5 | 11.1 |
| 334 | Morgan Gerhardt | 260 | 267 | +1 |       |     |      |
| 157 | Nat Aust (a)    | 201 | 205 | +4 | 32.9  | 8.1 | 94   |
| 523 | Nat West (na)   | 537 | 540 | +3 | 800.1 | 4.7 | 5.5  |

|    |                    |     |     |    |      |     |      |
|----|--------------------|-----|-----|----|------|-----|------|
| 70 | 86 Agaveco         | 115 | 120 | -  | 4.0  | 3.4 | 14.8 |
| 70 | 87 Admical Comp    |     |     |    |      |     |      |
| 70 | 88 Alfa            | 97  | 102 | -  | 6.0b | 6.0 |      |
| 70 | 89 Alphamarc       | 284 | 294 | +9 | 3.8  | 1.3 | 17.5 |
| 72 | 113 Amerstar (ac)  | 169 | 181 | -1 | 1.2  | 0.8 | 9.3  |
| 74 | 93 Aspen Computers | 97  | 102 |    | 0.7  | 0.7 | 13.3 |
| 70 | 110 Artek          | 135 | 145 |    | 3.4b | 2.4 | 12.6 |

|     |                     |     |     |     |      |     |      |
|-----|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| 305 | Black Arrow         | 378 | 383 | ●   | 10.6 | 2A  | 22.1 |
| 300 | Birmingham Min      | 183 | 193 | ●   | 9.8  | 5.1 | 10.4 |
| 25  | 87 Black Arrow      | 97  | 107 | ●   | 2.7  | 2.6 | ..   |
| 156 | 131 Black (Polar)   | 132 | 137 | ●+2 | 2.3  | 1.7 | 15.1 |
| 95  | 11 Hornet           | 51  | 53  | ●+1 | 1.6  | 3.1 | 6.0  |
| 127 | 90 Blue Arrow (jet) | 119 | 122 | ●+3 | 1.1  | 0.9 | 18.2 |

|     |     |                 |     |     |    |      |      |      |
|-----|-----|-----------------|-----|-----|----|------|------|------|
| 136 | 142 | Strongly mu     | 138 | 146 |    |      |      |      |
| 45  | 41  | Strongly        | 38  | 43  | -1 | 4.3  | 10.5 | 4.9  |
| 181 | 133 | Stater          | 169 | 172 | +1 | 8.9  | 4.0  | 9.7  |
| 128 | 108 | Swan Pacific A' | 110 | 114 | -1 | ..   | ..   | ..   |
| 35  | 24  | Sycamore        | 32  | 37  | +4 |      |      |      |
| 330 | 300 | Sydney          | 280 | 320 | .. | 14.3 | 4.8  | 16.3 |

|     |     |                |     |     |    |      |     |      |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----|-----|----|------|-----|------|
| 195 | 30  | Century        | 175 | 185 | -1 | 6.7  | 4.5 | 10.7 |
| 149 | 102 | Clyde          | 143 | 145 | +8 | ..   | ..  | 51.4 |
| 77  | 40  | Concord Energy | 72  | 75  | +1 | ..   | ..  | ..   |
| 287 | 236 | Enterspace (m) | 268 | 272 | +4 | 13.0 | 3.5 | 21.0 |
| 105 | 76  | Good Pet       | 102 | 103 | +1 | 1.4  | 1.4 | 38.7 |
| 135 | 108 | El Western Res | 105 | 110 | +5 | 4.6  | 4.3 | ..   |

payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures i Forecast earnings o Ex other t Ex rights s Ex scap o share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.



# A new North, getting back on the track



**The conviction is growing that the region's economic salvation must come from within rather than the luring of capital from the rest of the UK and abroad**

Which North? The main street in the Northumbrian country town of Wooler is coloured drab green. Barbers are the uniform here, amid the sheep runs and stone-walled farms; the high street is jammed by Land-Rovers. Here is Old Money and elevated social tone, even if in the summer months the nearby Pennine Way decants a different breed into the shops and hotels.

Yet hiker and hereditary landowner live together well enough in Wooler's version of the "North". Instead of Wooler, try Hexham, or Morpeth, both identified as "Northern Lights" in a recent study of the North's development potential, that is, plush and prosperous centres with enough antique shops and golf courses to please the most exacting refugees from the Home Counties.

There are, of course, other versions of the North. Last week's great reform of housing benefit will make scant difference to the sums done weekly by Hartlepool District

Council as it collects the rent for up to 70 per cent of its dwellings, not from the tenants but from the Department of Health and Social Security. Hartlepool, in Cleveland, is an impoverished town, a creation of the age of steel, left stranded on its passing.

In industrial recession, the town seems to have shrunk in on itself, blocked from the sea on one side by cliffs and redundant plants, hemmed in on the other by the forest of chemical-processing machinery that fills the north bank of the River Tees. The port, with its outlet to the North Sea, is dilapidated. This, too, is the "North".

So is the Gateshead MetroCentre, two million square feet of retail space plus an indoor theme park, a Marks & Spencer branch unafraid to try out its newest lines: an Enterprise Zone made good. Here the derelict legacy of Victorian capitalism has been ploughed under and new money poured in.

The site on which the shopping centre stands was, only eight years ago, worth a pittance — £100,000 to be exact. Now the values could safely add three noughts and still find a buyer: the worth of John Hall, the local developer who owns MetroCentre, is estimated at anything up to £200 million. Hype or no hype, MetroCentre is on retailing's leading edge, and it also is the North.

Of the three versions of the North, there is no question which appeals most to the burgeoning group of men and women whose livelihood it is, one way or another, to promote the North through such organizations as the Northern Development Company.

John Hall is the model not so much of the northern region's conversion to Thatcherism, as a growing conviction among business leaders and professional promoters that the region's economic salvation has got to come more and more from within, from the creation of new business, the stimulation of local property and less and less from the importation of capital and talent — or rather the bribing of capital — from the rest of the UK and overseas.

No one is going to stop, courting Japanese business or turn away another Nissan or Komatsu project; equally there is a strong sense that they cannot afford to depend on calculations made in the boardrooms of Tokyo.

John Hall says: "It's necessary to make the people within these provincial areas believe in themselves again." And the aspiration serves as the theme for the Northern Development Company, the most readily identifiable of the scores of organizations involved with the economic well being of the region. John Hall sits on it, alongside fellow businessmen, trade unionists and councillors.

Where the NDC is going, as of last week, is into the curious business of "image": it is planning a series of exhibitions, even a trans-European train, to promote the New North.

The statisticians' North encompasses the counties of Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland, the districts that used to make up the now abolished county of Tyne and Wear — a source of some controversy — the county of Cumbria, on the western side of the Pennines, belongs in Whitehall terms with Newcastle upon Tyne, except that is for Barrow-in-Furness and parts of the southern Lake District which look to Manchester.

Many Cumbrians, mindful

Above: Alastair Balls, chief executive of Tyne and Wear Development Corporation, by the Tyne bridge that symbolises a city and a region

of the special problems of regenerating the economy along the Solway Firth, consider they belong to the North-West.

Like other regions, the North is distinguished as much by internal diversity as by the homogeneity imparted by its industrial legacy of declining manufacturing and extractive industry.

**'It's necessary to make the people believe in themselves'**

The aggregates paint a picture of rapid decline in manufacturing employment, the highest unemployment outside Ulster, relatively slow growth in the service sector and huge continuing dependence on the public sector for employment: the sectoral picture (emphasized by such bodies as the NDC) is of a burgeoning pharmaceutical industry with good ties to Newcastle University, a region with high disposal income and a booming consumer expenditure and so on.

There is, it is safe to say, a provincial culture, in the sense that the inhabitants of Tyne and Wear share a view of the world. When, last year, Edwina Currie, the junior health

minister, cast aspersions on the dietary habits of "the North", she caused widespread offence, touching the regional identity.

Yet it is an identity that, according to Dr John Bridge, chief executive of the NDC, is changing.

Pundits have described the North-East as "deeply anti-entrepreneurial", meaning that the patterns of employment laid down in the nineteenth century were of division between employer and employee, in the pits, the shipbuilding yards and armaments factories.

Add to that a sort of Geordie docility and you have the recipe for excellent labour relations in, for example, the new Nissan car-making plant at Washington, near Sunderland. But it is not an occupational culture — the pundits say — suited to the 1990s.

Dr Bridge speaks of "creating capabilities from within": he sees the role of the NDC (which is paid for by contributions from business as well as the public sector) in creating and fostering indigenous institutions to assist them. He envisages a northern venture-capital fund. He has in mind a Northern Property Group.

There is a bottleneck in the supply of larger advance factories. Rents, which have traditionally been low since most factory building has



Left: John Hall, and his successful MetroCentre

not helped. Automatic regional development grants have been replaced by selective assistance adjudicated by civil servants. The New Towns are being wound up and their assets sold.

But the Government is still diverting money to the North through a plethora of schemes under its inner-cities programme and what remains of its regional assistance scheme. So the North has been given two development corporations, one working in Newcastle and Sunderland, the other on Teesside with the job of clearing the ground (physically and metaphorically) for private business to move in. Government can in no way substitute for private markets, Lord Young appears to say, but can lubricate their wheels.

Dr Bridge and his colleagues have no option but to agree, but their problem is reconciling what they claim are the manifest economic opportunities now opening in the North and the unwillingness of London-based financiers to venture northwards — the "Warford Gap syndrome". Capitalism, it appears, is curiously myopic.

**David Walker**  
Social Affairs Correspondent  
\* Northern Lights: A Development Agenda for the North in the 1990s, by Michael Brexey, Peter Hall and Douglas Hart, from Derrick, Wade and Partners, 29a Wimpole Street, London W1M 7AD

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JOHN HALL  
Chairman & Managing Director,  
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The Great North: to discover its many attractions, phone John Sadlik at the NDC. The number is (091) 261 0026.





FOCUS

NORTHERN ENGLAND

# It's up to the executives, says the Government

The government supremo in the inner cities, bounded on the stage of the Eldon Square recreation centre in Newcastle recently to preach to an audience of 200 northern business executives invited to the first of his roadshows, *David Walker*. His text was taken from Samuel Smiles, his readings from the gospel of self-help and instead of hymns there was a viewing of the latest Department of Trade and Industry video on the enterprise culture.

His message was simple: that urban regeneration in Newcastle, Middlesbrough and other towns in the region, is up to them.

The Government could lead a band of civil servants were empowered to put in some money there. And the Department of Enterprise had various schemes; for example, by paying the initial fees for management consultants to come in and advise a business looking for opportunities. But beyond that, inner-city regeneration was their job.

But with that formulation of government policy, Kenneth Clarke posed several problems for the North. One is whether the private sector is strong enough to take on the burden of regeneration that the minister appeared to be laying on. The number of big companies with headquarters on Tyne-side are few. Indigenous capitalism is, in a sense, weak.

The abolition of automatic entitlement to grants in the development areas, as from April 1, as part of the Government's re-think of regional policy, has left it unclear how the urban areas of the North can expect any special lift.

Mr Clarke made it clear — in a letter he wrote to Councillor Jeremy Beecham, the Labour leader of Newcastle City Council — that he does not really see much role for local authorities in his new thinking about regeneration.

Newcastle City Council, Labour-controlled, cannot by any stretch of the imagination be called immoderate, and Mr

Jeremy Beecham, the Labour leader of Newcastle City Council, at the Armstrong Centre on the banks of the Tyne

is whether there will be changes in the pattern of grant-giving by the DTI.

Cumbria, Durham, Cleveland and Northumberland county councils all have departments dedicated to promotion, and to the stimulus of indigenous enterprises.

Durham County Council recently set up Durham Development Company under the chairmanship of Sir Ron Dearing, the former chairman of the Post Office, intended to work on "door-opening" in the county.

Cleveland County Council's economic development and planning committee sponsors, among other activities, Cleveland ITEC to spearhead both training in information technology skills in the area but also the use by firms and public sector bodies of information technology.

Mention of the Department

Many offers of support for the aspiring business

of the Environment begs the question of how far, despite Mr Clarke's appointment, central government itself speaks with a single voice on inner-city and regional development issues.

The DoE has its own set of interests. They include the derelict-land programme, making grants available, for example, to make the Durrant Sidings in Carlisle fit to house a 7,450 square metre factory which will be supplying pies and quiches to Marks and Spencer. The prize is 300 jobs.

The array of organizations to which the aspiring or the established business can turn for support is huge. In Con-

sen, Durham, where the end of steel making in 1980 cost 3,500 jobs, praise has been heaped on the Derwentside Industrial Development Agency for helping the establishment of snack-food makers and disposable nappy manufacturers as replacement employers.

English Estates is the quango responsible for providing advance factories in the development areas, and though its work has recently been scaled down (leading, some say, to a bottleneck in the supply of factory space) it continues to play a role. It is still an active builder, for example, in the 167-acre Bellasis Hall Technology Park on Teesside.

Among the most glamorous of the agencies recently established to promote the region are the Department of the Environment's two development corporations which, although intended to regenerate specific tracts of land, have come to play a wider, promotional role just as the New Town corporations that are now being wound up did before them.

Alastair Balls, chief executive of the Tyne and Wear Development Corporation, is responsible for riparian sites along the two waterways. "My job is to make those rivers really work again", he says, intending not only to stimulate business but to keep a clear eye on how the buildings and landscaping looks.

Duncan Hall, chief executive of the Teesside Development Corporation, is less concerned about looks and asks to be judged on how many jobs the agency can create.

The Teesside Development Corporation may find that retailing offers a good prospect of taking people off the Middlesbrough unemployment register. It is negotiating the redevelopment of the Stockton racecourse in a big project centred on supermarkets. Leisure beckons, too: the corporation is examining the creation of a marina at Hartlepool.

هكزامن الشمال

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**TYNE WEAR DEV CORP**

The GREAT North





There's much more confidence in manufacturing generally, even in the more traditional industries

Terry Harrison

## Confidence returns as orders flow

As chairman of the region's engineering giant, the Newcastle-based Northern Engineering Industries, Terry Harrison is well placed to see the changes. "There's a great deal more confidence in manufacturing generally, even in the more traditional industries such as mine," he said.

"Companies have got their costs down, they are much more efficient and they are better managed. Also, the inward investment is really beginning to pay off and is making a significant impact on the region's economic fortunes."

He says the turnaround is particularly noticeable in the supply industries. "There was a very high mortality rate among these companies, but now they are starting to last longer."

Mr Harrison's own group has just emerged from a two-year rationalization programme, involving heavy plant closures and job cuts, as it prepares itself for an intensely competitive power-station business in the 1990s. Its 1987 results, published last month, revealed a drop in turnover to £805 million (£938 million in 1986), but an encouraging rise in profits £32.2 million (£23.2 million).

The big Japanese investments in the North have been stealing the industrial headlines, bringing in new automotive and consumer-electronics industries and forcing fundamental change in the region's landscape.

Some of the region's longer-established engineering companies are also going through changes. Artix, for example, the articulated dump-truck operator at Peterlee owned by an entrepreneur, David Brown, has just bought General Motors' Bedford truck business.

Howard Dawson, Artix's managing director, says that the two will, however, be run as quite separate businesses.

Artix makes articulated dump trucks for Caterpillar, exporting 85 per cent of its output and employing 675 people, 45 of whom are based at a new £2 million plant at Stockton which will produce articulated dump trucks and telescopic materials-handling vehicles. Mr Dawson says Artix plans to make up to 700 trucks this year, compared with 600 in 1987.

At nearby Spennymoor, Electrolux is investing £4.5 million in the former Thurn EMI refrigerator and cooker plant it took over last year. The investment is going into modernizing and re-equipping the 250,000 sq ft factory.

The fast-growing technology of surface engineering is one in which several companies in the region are taking a lead. The surface-technology group, Multi-Arc, which has a subsidiary in Consett, Durham, owned jointly with Siemens, recently formed a joint venture research and consultancy company with Newcastle Polytechnic.

Called Aset (advanced surface engineering technologies), the company has £250,000 worth of research work in this, its first full year in business, including work for Multi-Arc, Siemens, Rolls-Royce, British Gas, NEI Parsons, Lamp Metals and the National Centre of Tribology.

Its chairman, Alan Stevenson, said: "I want to expand Multi-Arc at Consett in terms of the technologies we have available. We plan to be a centre of excellence and expertise."

Another Co Durham company in surface technology is Whickham Ion Beam Systems, part of the Darlington-based Darchem Group. It is a world-recognized supplier of ion implantation equipment, used primarily for research into new materials. It recently installed a 200keV heavy ion accelerator at Imperial College.

Allan Lee



Installing an engine. Nissan spent £24 million on its Sunderland plant.

## Jobs from the East

Two years from now there will be 6,300 people in the North-East working for the Japanese, writes Allan Lee. This forecast, based on investments and expansion plans already announced by the Japanese companies sprouting in the region, was published by the Department of Trade and Industry last month.

But events have already overtaken the prediction: Nissan Yamato Engineering (NYEL) has since announced it will now be creating 250 jobs at its new vehicle-component factory to supply Nissan's car plant at Washington, near Sunderland.

When NYEL's £24 million investment was announced last July, the Nissan joint-venture company said it would create 130 jobs. But Nissan's own accelerated expansion plans - its 1991 production target has recently been doubled from 100,000 to 200,000 units a year - means its suppliers need to be bigger, too. And soundings from the region's inward investment agencies are suggesting the DTI forecast will prove conservative. They say more Japanese and far-eastern companies are likely to announce plans for new factory investments between the Borders and the Tees.

The Industry Secretary, Lord Young, announced in Tokyo last month that Sanyo, was to become the region's 21st Japanese company. In an £11 million investment, San-

yo will create more than 500 jobs at two sites: Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, and Thornaby in Cleveland, where it will make microwave ovens and magnetrons.

A Sanyo official said his company opted for the North-East because of its good ports, its good labour force, and because of the help given to it by the Northern Development Company, the DTI and other

### The Japanese seem to feel at home with the North-East

regional agencies. Sanyo's plant brings to £480 million the Japanese investment in the region.

Reay Atkinson, Northern Development Company chairman, says: "The Japanese seem to feel very much at home with the people of the North-East. Everyone has worked extremely hard to make them feel welcome, and that includes the trade unions and all the local authorities."

Inward investment provided an important share of the region's manufacturing capacity long before the Japanese arrived.

There are 90 European and more than 90 US firms in the North of England, many of them having been here for

decades. Among the largest Japanese factories in the North-East are the £32 million NSK Bearings plant at Peterlee, employing 554 people; Komatsu's £14 million earthmoving equipment facility at Birtley, providing 275 jobs; and the Tabuchi Electric plant at Thornaby, Cleveland, which employs 450 making transformers for televisions, video recorders and microwave ovens.

Nissan's factory at Sunderland, now producing officially "British" cars with 60 per cent local content, is however by far the largest Japanese investment in the North.

And news that the Sunderland factory was to be the largest single Japanese investment in Europe emerged in December when the Nissan chairman, Takashi Ishihara, announced an additional £216 million was to be invested on top of expansion plans already in the pipeline. Nissan has now committed £600 million to the factory.

Mr Ishihara said the additional investment would provide 1,000 new jobs at the plant over and above increases in the workforce already planned, and at least 400 additional jobs among Nissan suppliers such as Ikeda Hoover and NYEL. He said: "The total number of employees at our Sunderland plant will be increased from its present level of about 1,100 to around 3,500 by 1992."

## Only four years old and 400 on staff

Dr John Russell admits biotechnology is not the first thing people associate with Teesside, writes Allan Lee. He is general manager of one of ICI's most entrepreneurial ventures, Biological Products at Billingham, which is using biotechnology to create new products and new businesses. He said: "We grew out of ICI's work on single-cell proteins in the 1960s and 1970s, and we are now setting up new businesses, either on our own or through joint ventures, with companies in the UK, Europe, Japan and the United States."

Dr Russell says Biological Products will eventually employ close to 400 people, having already grown to 230 since its beginning in 1984.

His group is developing a business in biocatalysts, using micro-organisms for tackling environmental problems such as treating toxic waste, and also for developing new biological routes to making chemicals.

From his office window Dr Russell can see Belasis Hall Technology Park, a joint venture between ICI and English Estates, backed by funding from central and local government. Phase 1 of the park spanning 50,000 sq ft is now complete and will be formally opened later this year. Its chief executive, George Hunter, says 17 companies have signed to locate at Belasis Hall, taking up between them around half the available accommodation in Phase 1.

Though the tenants are in various advanced-technology industries, many in information technology, the park offers a special opportunity for biotechnology companies such as Worcester-based Restec Food Laboratories. ICI is willing to open its doors to small firms on the park, making its expertise and some of its technology and equipment available to them.

Graham Street believes Belasis Hall will provide a new focus for the biotechnology work going on in the region. He is coordinator of the North East Biotechnology Centre, formed by Sunderland and Teesside polytechnics.

# TEES/SIDE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## Biggest Biggest Biggest

of them all

At 12,000 acres - 19 square miles - Teesside is the biggest of the new urban development projects. Almost as big as all the rest put together, including London Docklands.

Teesside. A project to reinvest its areas with all the modern industrial, business, social and leisure amenities that today's society demands.

Teesside. Embracing the lower reaches and estuary of the Tees and part of Hartlepool. Drawing on the great industrial tradition of Middlesbrough, Stockton, Langbaurgh and Hartlepool. Affording the facilities of the UK's third largest port, and Teesside International Airport. Boasting the strengths and advanced engineering and technology of industrial giants like ICI, British Steel, Davy McKee and Phillips Petroleum. Flourishing two Enterprise Zones. Offering all the skills and expertise to underwrite any industrial and commercial enterprise. Enjoying the rich scenic, architectural and cultural hinterland of Cleveland, North Yorkshire and Northumbria.

Teesside. An established manufacturing, business and communications base on which to initiate and participate in profitable ventures. Already up and running. With a host of innovative projects in train. With a host of initiatives in its sights.

"60 years of successful ICI production research and commercial drive in and from the Region would not have been possible without the high quality of skills, commitment and support of the people of Teesside."

- Denis Henderson, Chairman, ICI

investment opportunities

Teesside. A dynamic ongoing industrial, commercial and social programme in which you can participate. A dynamic ongoing programme which offers prime investment and development opportunities.

Opportunities that are apparent in the range of initiatives set out in this advertisement. In all of which participation is invited. Opportunities beyond these which Teesside is ready willing and able to demonstrate, discuss and aid. Opportunities for your own initiatives on Teesside.

Opportunities that are enhanced by the package of incentives and assistance that only Teesside can put together for you. Grants and other benefits that stem from Teesside's Development Area status and from its two Enterprise Zones. Grants and loans available from the European Community to Teesside as an area where traditional industries have declined. Free advisory and support services for both established and incoming enterprises.

Opportunities that are underpinned by Teesside's 'European Gateway' situation, by its excellent motorway rail and air communications, and by its established status as a financial centre.

"Two years ago the Davy Group marked 100 years of continuous operation on Teesside, with the centenary of Ashmore Benson Pease. Today, our worldwide operations in the minerals, metals and nuclear industries; our R&D Centre, which has a leading edge on world technology; and the HQ of our offshore module building and marine services - are all on Teesside. Their success is based on the enterprise and technical capability of the people who work on Teesside. We look forward to another century of successful service to our customers worldwide from our strong base on Teesside."

- Lord Jellicoe, Chairman, Davy Corporation

range of initiatives

In place - ICI's biggest UK manufacturing unit - on Teesside - has already taken a technological initiative with its advanced international R & D centre. British Steel's worldwide expertise - on Teesside - also operates one of Britain's highest-tech projects in its advanced high tensile steel testing facility. Davy Corporation's new advanced engineering technologies are pursued - on Teesside. Europe's biggest CAD/CAM centre in the Middlesbrough Enterprise Zone - is on Teesside.

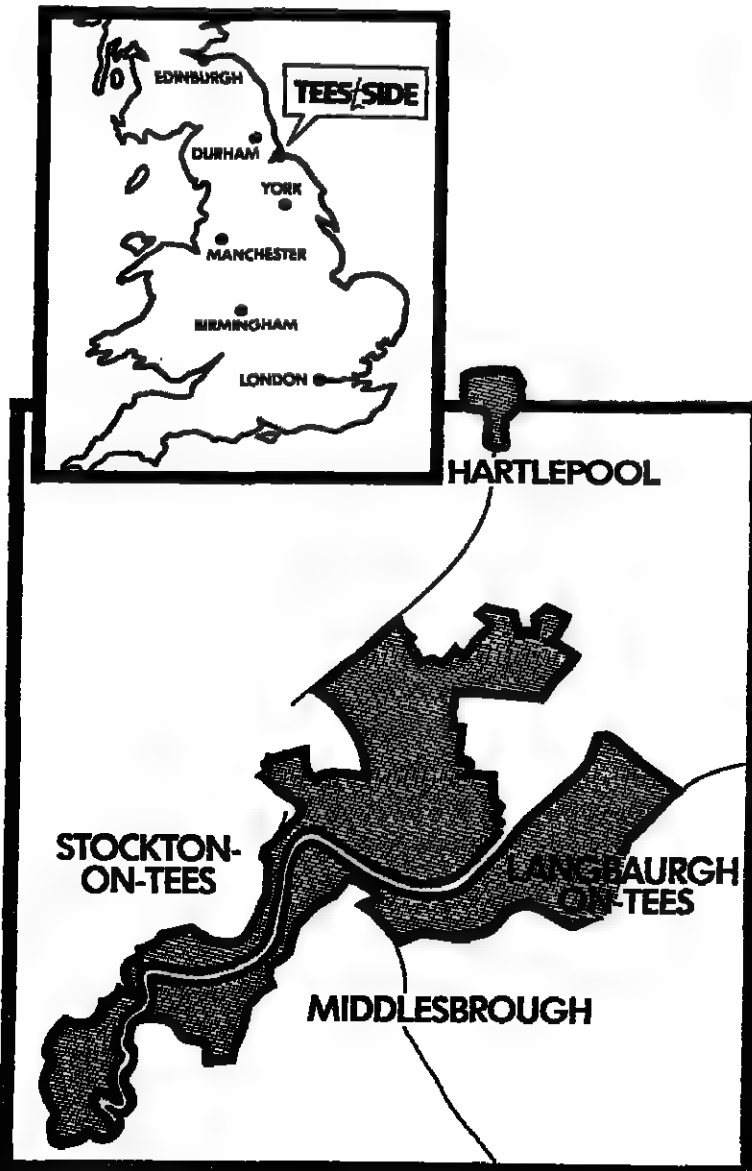
Newly launched - Teesside Offshore Base for ocean bed technology. A joint venture between Teesside Development Corporation, Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority, Uglad, Northern Ocean Services and British Telecom International Marine Services to put Teesside at the forefront of ocean bed exploitation technology.

On the stocks - an 800 berth marina, maritime heritage, residential, hotel and entertainment complex at Hartlepool.

To find out how you can participate in the Biggest Development and Investment Opportunities: Contact Duncan Hall, Chief Executive, Teesside Development Corporation, Tees House, Riverside Park, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS2 1RE. Tel: (0642) 230636.

# TEES/SIDE

Initiative Talent Ability



'We are setting out once again to be ahead of our time...'

...where you have initiative, talent and ability, the money follows'

the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, Teesside, 16 September 1987

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## Motoring by Clifford Webb

## BMW Touring returns after 16 years

BMW "buffs" surface in the most unlikely places. I was watching a picnic lunch alongside a lonely Scottish loch when an ageing BMW drove slowly past, turned and repeated the process. This time it stopped and the ruddy-faced, tweed-clad driver came across.

"So that's the new BMW estate is it? Mind if I have a look around." He stayed for 20 minutes, and long before that time was up it was apparent that he had read just about everything published about BMW cars in the last 20 years.

As a farmer, he prized the extra load-carrying capability of the new BMW 325i Touring, but was not happy about the shape. "It's not really the BMW image," he asserted.

That comment explains why BMW has waited 16 years before building a successor to the 2,000 Touring which was withdrawn after only two years because continental BMW buyers did not want utility-looking versions. Britain was one of the few markets where it sold well and its premature demise was regretted.

BMW is still reluctant to call it an estate, preferring to retain the in-house word



The BMW 325i Touring: one of the fastest estates on the road

Touring. Officially it is a "compact sporting car that offers greater versatility for leisure time use".

Based on the popular 3-Series four-door saloon, it has less load-carrying space than its size would suggest because, in the interests of noise suppression and clean lines, the wheel arches are totally enclosed up to window height. As

a result it is as quiet as the saloon, but loses valuable cargo space.

The suspension has been stiffened to cope with about 200lbs of extra weight, but driven one-up over some 170 miles of mixed Scottish roads last week the ride and handling were excellent.

The 2.5 litre version of BMW's superb six cylinder

engine makes this one of the fastest estates on the road with a 0-62 mph time of 8.8 seconds and a maximum speed of 133 mph. Now reaching showrooms, its very full specification includes ABS anti-lock brakes, alloy wheels and power steering. It costs £18,595 (manual) and £19,985 (automatic). A cheaper two-door will be introduced later in the year.



Mercedes' new 300E 4 Matic: £5,000 extra, but no shortage of customers

## Brain-power boosts Mercedes

Only Mercedes could take an already expensive car and add another £5,000-plus to the purchase price for "unseen" equipment. The 300E 4 Matic which has just arrived in British showrooms costs £30,150 as a saloon and £31,650 as an estate. In standard guise they sell for £24,250 and £25,750 respectively. But so remarkable is the additional equipment that there will be no shortage of buyers.

The term 4 Matic refers to the most advanced four-wheel drive system to date. During normal driving the car uses only two driven wheels (rear), avoiding the heavy fuel consumption and lack of manoeuvrability found with many full-time four-wheel drive systems. Corner faster than normal or drive on

rain or ice-affected roads and sensors linked to an electronic "brain" lock in the front wheels. The front turn angle is measured and compared with the position of the steering wheel. If there is a difference it engages four-wheel drive. A warning light on the dash tells the driver what is happening. The same happens if a wheel spins.

It operates in three stages:  
1. Adds front to rear-wheel drive.  
2. Locks differential between the two axles.  
3. Locks differential in rear axle.  
Standard equipment includes ABS anti-lock braking, power steering, central locking, electric windows and seat belt tensioners.

## Citroen's 1.9 estate

Estate cars between 1.6 and 2.0 litre have taken off during the past three years. Sales rose from 35,809 in 1985, to 38,663 in 1986 and 53,256 last year. One of the beneficiaries, Citroen's BX estate range, has just been strengthened by the addition of a fuel-injected 1.9.

The new BX 1.9 TRi estate could prove particularly popular with caravan and boating enthusiasts looking for extra pulling power. The BX's self-levelling, hydro-pneumatic suspension copes with over half a tonne payload and will tow up to 1100 kgs. It costs £11,354.

## Added punch for the boxer

Alfa Romeo is giving its engine range a much needed boost. At the Turin Motor Show this week it revealed plans to start with the existing 1.7 "boxer" engine. It is getting four valves per cylinder, electronic multi-point fuel injection, electronic engine management and butterfly valves in the inlets for improved efficiency.

## MERCEDES-BENZ AUTHORISED DEALERS

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## RUGBY UNION

# Top clubs will fight hard to maintain position of privilege

By Gerald Davies

Not even Welsh rugby — or perhaps especially Welsh rugby — can escape that unbearable tightness of being known as a closed shop.

The Welsh Rugby Union's general committee cannot determine its own progress and conduct without, inevitably, the majority consent of the club membership. In the debate which is under way about the setting up of leagues and which although only simmering at the moment will come to the boil during the summer, the majority of the clubs in the union will give the idea their blessing.

However, within this framework an influential caucus would like to undermine the proposals. These are the 16 Merit Table clubs, so called, who, apart from Swansea, have shown no inclination or sympathy for the promotion of a league structure and without whom, they feel, no such system could effectively be sustained.

There is something deceptively delicate, not to say fishy, about their position. For while they participate in an unofficial championship promoted by a national newspaper and, in addition, actively administer a Merit Table sponsored by a brewery, they protest most loudly and convincingly against such a league officially sanctioned by the WRU, saying that what was good enough for the last

hundred years or so remains good for the future of Welsh rugby. And, with an expression of affection for each other, they wish to exercise personal choice in the decision as to who they should play. There is still further talk of extra pressure on players, the likely deterioration in behaviour and the increasing possibility that money would change hands.

All this smacks of gerrymandering and double talk. It is the closed shop mentality. These clubs have been in a monopoly position for so long and given no opportunity for others to break into their exclusive group. As such they are a self-perpetuating and a privileged gang. The WRU, however, would like to persuade them to have a change of heart.

"Personally, I don't think that to call up the past is entirely relevant," Ray Williams, the WRU secretary, says. "The climate in which rugby is now played is changing and we have to take that into account if we are to prepare for what the future holds. We are a small nation but we need to make certain we make full use of all our resources and not waste opportunities."

"As for the freedom of choice, I am sure, given discussion, there will still be enough freedom within a

structure which accommodates, say, a stipulated number of 18 fixtures a season, and allows clubs to make their own arrangements at other times.

"As for extra pressure and violence," goes on Mr Williams, "experience shows that in the Cup competition, for example, behaviour remains good and the players relish that kind of pressure. And if the authorities keep firm control there is no need to worry about rugby becoming in any way professional. There would have also to be stricter controls on the movements of players. All this forms part of a five-year plan which incorporates a number of developments of which leagues is only one."

"The timetable of discussion is under way. A draft paper will be submitted to the committee of the Union in May. That, once approved, has been reached, will then be distributed to all the clubs who can make their own recommendations. The matter will not doubt be discussed at this year's AGM but approval can only be given at the AGM the following year."

If this persuasive dialogue fails, one wonders whether, as elsewhere, a legislative change will have to insist, through the union's constitution, that all clubs take part in such a competition.

## Innovative approach seems sure to succeed

By Cathy Harris

Maureen McCarthy, a Birmingham housewife, last played hockey 25 years ago in her school team. Yesterday was her first opportunity to play since then when she joined 30 others in the first Typhoo School of Hockey at the Fox Hollies Leisure Centre in Birmingham.

The Midlands-based project is the first of its kind in England and is aimed at encouraging women back to sport. Neil Mallett, a former England captain who is the first regional development officer for the England Women's Hockey Association, conceived the idea after research findings concluded that four out of five women do not play sport after leaving school.

Women attracted back into this healthy team sport will be provided with courses in their local communities throughout the spring. Mallett, who will administer the courses, assisted by a qualified coach, says that the most important component is the fun side.

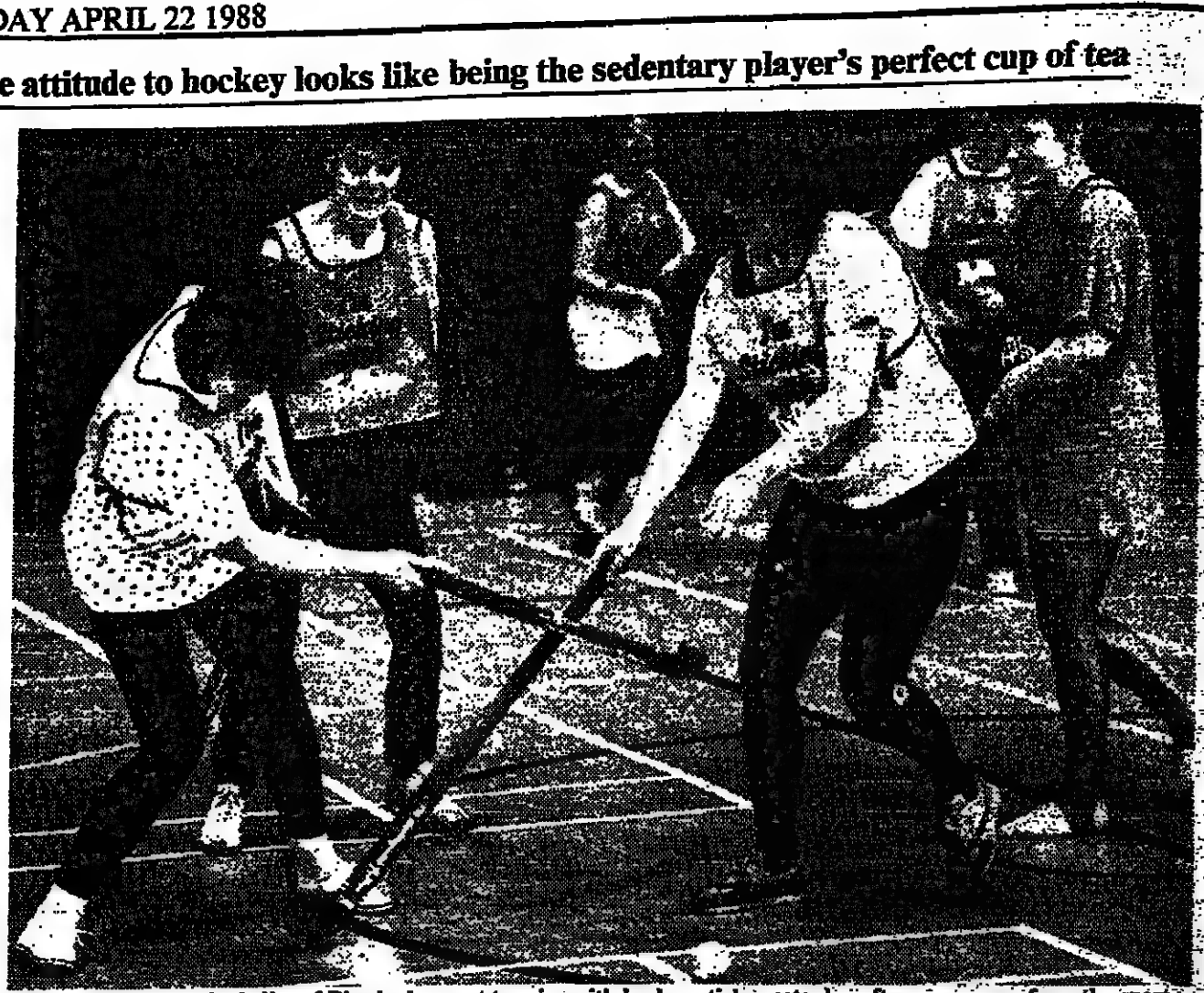
"We want them to thoroughly enjoy themselves whilst learning the skills and recalling the rules," he said. "We have created a slightly different game which will encourage lots of running play but which gives us the chance to build their confidence in sports halls, on grass pitches or on artificial surfaces."

An added incentive is the provision of sports facilities. Anne Hughes, aged 32, from Acocks Green, says she could not consider attending if she could not bring her daughter — a view shared by the majority of the participants.

Slipping their complimentary cup of tea before the start of the first session, most of the women agreed that the non-competitive nature of the course had attracted them.

"Everything is so competitive now," Cathy Crossley, from Moseley, said. "We want to be able to get together and play social games. It's impossible to get enough friends rounded up for hockey owing to the numbers required, but because these are morning courses and everything is organized, it gives us the ideal opportunity."

At the first course the eager new players were introduced to some basic skills and then enjoyed a short game. Afterwards McCarthy, a mother of four, enthused: "It was fantastic as we'll all be back next week. My husband will never believe me!"



The way we were: the ladies of Birmingham get to grips with hockey sticks yesterday after years away from the sport

## Racing results from yesterday's three meetings

### Cheltenham

Going 10m

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perfect cup of tea



meetings

Plumpton

Blinkered first time

House of Lords

at forgery

session estoppel

expedition fails

# RACING

## Soviet Star to provide encore for France in Sandown feature race

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

The Truhouse Forte Mile looks like being won by the horse trained in France for the second year in succession at Sandown Park today.

Twelve months ago it was Vertige, trained by Patrick-Louis Blamont and ridden by Tony Cruz, who proved just too strong for the gallant Teleprompter.

This time, expect Andre Faurie's top class four-year-old Soviet Star, with Cash Amussen in the saddle, to be too good for Ascot Knight, even at a difference of 6lb.

That weight difference, which is far from insignificant at this high level, should be cancelled out by Soviet Star's far greater experience of racing over today's distance.

The only time that Ascot Knight has tackled the mile was when he made his debut at Newmarket last spring. Thereafter, he ran only over 1 1/4 miles except when he took part in the Derby.

In contrast Soviet Star did virtually all his racing over a mile last year, when he was rewarded with victories in the French 2,000 Guineas and the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood.

The fact that he excelled over that distance is hardly surprising when you consider his pedigree.

Nureyev, his sire, was a miler of the highest class while

Venture, his maternal grand-sire, won the St James's Palace Stakes and the Sussex Stakes after finishing second in the 2,000 Guineas.

Last season Ascot Knight's best performance came at York where he was defeated first by Reference Point in May and then again by Triptych in August.

While conceding that he had a fair bit on his plate each time, I still feel that he will be vulnerable when Amussen asks Soviet Star to quicken this afternoon.

Bengal Fire, Shady Heights and Vague Shot finished second, third, and fifth respectively behind Mile Starguest at Newmarket nine days ago and most again on the same terms. But that form does not look good enough.

Print, the only other runner, tackles a mile for the first time but may well turn out to be a sprinter pure and simple like his sire Sharn.

His jockey Pat Eddery's hopes of winning the Gardner Merchant Maiden Fillies Stakes on Reesh's promising half-sister Wakay may have been dashed by the draw, which now favours Traffic Problem.

However, Eddery can ride another double on Respect (3.5) and Breakout (4.10).

With the starting stalls placed on the far side of the sprint course, Respect is nicely placed in stall eight.

A winner twice over the course and distance already, he will be meeting Padre Pio on 15th better terms than when they clashed here last June. On that occasion only half a length separated them at the end.

Following that victory over a mile and seven furlongs at Folkestone 11 days ago, Breakout is now napped to win the Little Chef Handicap.

It would be difficult to exaggerate the ease with which the David Elsworth-trained four-year-old won that day, and I believe that he is well worth following while he can still race off his old rating, albeit with a 4lb penalty.

Cleamoor, third in the race won by 1,000 Guineas hope Dabaweyah at Newmarket last week, will be hard to beat in the Ring & Bryner Stakes for maiden three-year-old fillies.

Having scored nine times on the course already, Rapid Lad is now fancied to win the race named after him at Beverley where the Aga Khan's promising filly, Zahraana, appeals as a sporting bet to thwart Foreign Survivor in the second division of the Leconfield Maiden Stakes.

## Bradley loses his Balding retainer

Graham Bradley has lost his job with leading National Hunt trainer Toby Balding.

The Fyfield trainer confirmed at Cheltenham yesterday that their successful association had ended.

Bradley will not be riding Balding's top chaser Kildimo in the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown tomorrow and will be replaced by Jimmy Frost.

Kildimo is one of a number of horses that Balding trains for owner Lady Harris who has a retainer on Bradley.

Balding said at Cheltenham: "The owner will not be retaining Graham Bradley next season."

No successor has yet been named but Balding is known to favour Frost who has partnered a number of the stable's leading horses in recent seasons including Lucky Vane.

Balding was in good form yesterday winning the 1788 Handicap Hurdle with Little Toro in the hands of Tony Charlton. Charlton now needs just one more victory to win his allowance in cut from 7lb to 4lb.

Fred Scudamore, on the 99 mark for the season, made most of the running on La Grande Dame in typical Martin Pipe style but as they approached the home turn Little Toro moved up easily and was clearly just waiting to pounce.

Charlton did not send him

## Triptych entries accepted

Triptych will be able to run in this year's Henson Consolation Cup and Eclipse Handicap despite the fact that his name was missing from the official list of entries published on Wednesday (Phil McLennan writes).

In discussions yesterday between the Jockey Club and Louis Romanet, director-general of the Societe d'Encouragement, Romanet confirmed that a letter listing Patrick-Louis Blamont's entries for the two group events had been received by the French racing authority before the official deadline.

Accordingly, Weatherbys have added Triptych, River Memories, Dahlan and Vagney Pessant to entries for the Eclipse race on June 2 while Triptych, Raise A Memory, River Memories and Dahlan are now among the entries for the Sandown contest on July 2.

Triptych, now six, finished second in both the Consolation Cup and Eclipse two years ago. Last season she won the coveted Eclipse prize and finished third behind Mitote and Reference Point at Sandown.

She makes her seasonal reappearance on Sunday week in the Prix Ganay at Longchamps.

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### Point-to-point - page 42

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Accordingly, Weatherbys have added Triptych, River

# SEDFIELD

## Selections

By Mandarin

2.30 Roskova, 3.0 Master Lamb, 3.30 Spriteland, 4.0 Candy Cone, 4.30 Not Easy, 5.0 John Bluff, 5.25 Flying Danon.

### Going: good

2.30 BRAN NOVICES HURDLE (Div 1 part 1: 2042: 2m 40) (13 runners)

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# 4.0 REG LAMB MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE

(£2,110: 3m 600yd) (11)

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35. 1000 LEANLADA 16 (C.J.F.) M. J. Harris 5-12 M. Henson 10-10

# SANDOWN PARK

## Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 Traffic Problem, 2.35 Kahyasi, 3.05 Respect, 3.40 Soviet Star, 4.10 Breakout (nap), 4.45 Cleamoor.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.00 Fencible, 2.35 KAHYASI (nap), 3.05 Respect, 3.40 Ascot Knight, 4.10 Somebody, 4.45 Don't Rush.

By Michael Seely

2.35 Kahyasi, 4.10 BREAKOUT (nap), 4.45 BAHYAN.

The Times Private Handicapper's top ratings: 2.35 KAHYASI.

### Going: good to soft

2.0 GARDNER MERCHANT MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,262: 50) (12 runners)

101 (4) ANAVALOVA'S PASSION (B) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

102 (5) BOCA'S ROSE (B) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

103 (6) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

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106 (9) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

107 (10) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

108 (11) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

109 (12) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

110 (13) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

111 (14) FENALISS (M) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S) (S)

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## Exiles in search of return ticket

David Miller

Chief Sports Correspondent

Any European Cup is clearly incomplete without Liverpool, who have for some time surpassed Manchester United or Arsenal in international status, the most respected and accomplished club in the history of the English game. Their seven-teenth League title will demand an answer to how they may be allowed to return to their rightful international arena.

It could be tomorrow: if only there was a way to get the club back to Europe. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance.

Smith's belief, which I have followed, is that the football club should be eradicated from society, and that any English return to Europe accompanied by spectators, good and bad, is doomed to another disaster. There must, therefore, be no travelling by any means to away ties involving English clubs.

Our well-behaved supporters would gladly accept this regulation. Smith's belief, which I have followed, is that the football club should be eradicated from society, and that any English return to Europe accompanied by spectators, good and bad, is doomed to another disaster.

Smith's view is that the present moment may be as good a time as any for the reintroduction of English clubs. He thinks the decision should await the dossier which Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, is preparing on the statistics of improvement in domestic crowd control. Smith makes the valid point that English clubs should assist other European countries, such as the Netherlands and Spain, by providing background information on the technical facilities by which British police have now got the upper hand inside English stadiums.

## Liverpool would seek remission

If the European championship passes without trouble, it is probable that UEFA will be inclined towards granting English clubs back to the stadium. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance.

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Liverpool's runaway performance in the League has provoked excessive praise and it is justified. Yet there should be some caution in evaluating their status. Thirty years ago, when Wolves spectacularly defeated Hovers and Sparak in football, Liverpool were hailed by British Press headlines as "world champions". The inauguration of the European Cup in 1956 soon disillusioned such presumptuous optimism.

In overwhelming the opposition of the present division, Liverpool cannot be sure whether they have achieved exceptional levels of skill. Tom Finney has compared them to Manchester United's pre-Munich team and to Tottenham's renaissance with the club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance.

Only a return to European competition will reveal the truth. Liverpool's return to Europe is a matter of some importance. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance. The club's return to Europe is a matter of some importance.

## Drugs test plan agreed

The British Cycling Federation yesterday agreed with the Sports Council an outline programme of drug testing this year, which will embrace road and track events (Peter Bryan writes).

Bryan Wotton, the federation's racing secretary, said: "It's something of a relief to have reached agreement because the season has been under way for two months. For financial reasons, no out-of-competition testing was done during the winter, which also disturbed us. We were on the verge of funding a limited programme of tests only."

No advance details of events selected for drugs testing will be made public, although the federation is required under international cycling rules to have

## BOXING: DEMOLITION JOB ON PEREZ REPAIRS PULLING POWER OF THE CLONES CYCLONE

# McGuigan picks his punches

By Srikanth Sen  
Boxing Correspondent

Big offers have been landing in clusters round Barry McGuigan's ears after his fourth-round victory over Nicky Perez, of the United States, at Alexandra Palace, London, on Wednesday night.

Luton Town Football Club has signed him up for a "super show" in June when his opponent will be Thomas De Cruz, of Brazil, the world No. 5. "We are going to put on a real show, together with a super laser show the like of which has never been seen in this country," the Luton stadium manager, Mike Devoer, said.

McGuigan would have been back in action in May had it not been for a sick over his left eye. His manager, Frank Warren, said: "We don't want to take any chances. I'm sure I could get Azumah Nelson and I have options on Rocky Lockridge, but it's not a question of him fighting for a world title. It is a question of him winning it."

American television companies, including NBC, ABC and CBS, are falling over themselves to feature him, even to do colour commentaries. It was quite like old times for the former world champion, who had been out of the ring for 22 months. He was the centre of attraction again: rushing off for quick television interviews, with cameras hovering round his face mewing and spitting like cats.

McGuigan, who had been apprehensive on Wednesday about how well he would perform after such a long lay-off, was a different person yesterday. "I am my own worst enemy as far as criticism is concerned and I am also a bit of a worrier and pessimist," he said. "That is why I was anxious at first. But the support was magnificent."



Back in the fold: McGuigan celebrates a successful return to the ring with his wife yesterday (Photograph: Mark Pepper)

"For the first time I felt I had strength. I am a more mature and complete fighter now. I am putting my punches together much better. Perez is not a bad fighter. He had Chavez (the world lightweight champion) in trouble in the first. He certainly set my ears buzzing in the third."

When one takes into account McGuigan's absence from the ring and that he is comfortably off as a successful businessman, it was no mean feat to dispose of Perez in four rounds when Chavez, who is

believed to be the best boxer in the world, took three rounds to stop the American. But it was perhaps a more impressive result than performance.

McGuigan gave a controlled display by not rushing into finish off Perez until absolutely certain and revealed new moves that quickly got him out of harm's way, including a neat, masked right hand, but his heavier new weight seems to have slowed him down.

His punches appear to have

lost their whiplash quality and become heavier. He was caught by good uppercuts and had Perez been a hard puncher McGuigan could have been in trouble. One hopes that having got off the mark he will discover the sharpness of the old McGuigan. In the meantime, wisely, he is looking no further than his next bout.

Nigel Benn, the unbeaten West Ham middleweight, who won the vacant Commonwealth title by stopping Umaru Sanda, of Ghana, in two rounds, too has been

inundated with offers. NBC wanted to sign him for seven contests.

However, it will be some time before the fearsome knockout specialist, who carries the message "Have a nice day" on his trunks, challenges for the world title. "He needs a little more schooling," his manager, Warren, said. "The European title comes first. Within 18 months or two years Nigel will box for the world title and I firmly believe he will win it."

## FOOTBALL: 15 YEARS AFTER TOTAL FOOTBALL, PSV EINDHOVEN LEAD A NEW GROUP OF MASTERS

# Dutch new wave reaching a crest

By Stuart Jones  
Football Correspondent

The Dutch renaissance is rapidly gathering pace and, to European standards, it may reach full speed this summer. By the end of June the nation that introduced "total football" to the world some 15 years ago, could have collected all three of the most glamorous trophies on the continent.

Ajax, the probable runners-up in the domestic championship, will be in the Cup Winners' Cup final on May 11. PSV Eindhoven, who have already retained the Dutch title, have qualified for the European Cup final a fortnight later. The national selection, almost entirely from the two leading clubs, will then compete in England's group for the European championship.

Gus Hiddink, PSV's manager, looked at the rich possibilities after guiding his own side to a tense, goalless and decisive, draw against Real Madrid on Wednesday night. "The game always goes in waves," he said. "And we are riding up it now at both club and international level."

He hopes that the crest will be reached within the next couple of months "because trainers are always impatient". Realistically, he believes that the new generation (in which Guilt, of AC Milan, and Koeman, of PSV, are the central figures) has yet to mature.

He said: "We have found that players reach their peak at around the age of 28. Most of our leading players are only 23 or 24 but I think they could go on to emulate the style of the Dutch side of the early 70s." That was the era, incidentally, of his own career at PSV.

## Ulster Games to help morale

Northern Ireland officials yesterday announced plans for the fifth Ulster Games, a festival of international sport which they hope will revive morale in the province.

Ten international sports will be featured between June 10 and 25 in the Ulster Games. Highlights include the first Davis Cup tennis tie to be staged in the province, with the European zone group two semi-final scheduled for June 10 to 12 in Belfast; the Irish Olympic boxing squad in a match against Canada; and an intercontinental men's hockey cup qualifying tournament will be staged at Lisburn.

## CYCLING

medical controls at the Milk Race and the professional Kellogg's Tour of Britain. The Tour of Britain, which is being held in the province, will be a two-week tour, which this year starts in Tenerife on Monday, five times without success, although he had the race leader's jersey last year for two days to go in the saddle bolts forced him to retire.

A likely challenger in the 21-day tour will be Robert Millar, of Scotland, whose team leader, Stephen Roche, yesterday announced that he was taking a 10-day rest to help him recover from a persistent knee injury.

## Donaghy to be fit for final

Mal Donaghy, the Luton Town defender carried off the Wembley pitch last Saturday, is almost certain to be back there on Sunday to play in the Littlewoods Cup final against Arsenal.

"The thought of playing at Wembley works wonders in helping injuries to heal," Ray Harford, the Luton manager, said yesterday. "When Mal was carried off the pitch, I thought he would have no chance of being able to play on Sunday. But each day we get more optimistic and his ankle ligament is responding well to treatment."

Les Sealey, Ricky Hill and David Preese and Meka Nwajioke, who have also been in the injured list, have declared themselves fit. Colchester United, the fourth division club threatened with bankruptcy by debts growing at a rate of £5,000 a week, have been offered a solution by neighbours Ipswich Town.

The two clubs are to discuss plans for a ground share scheme at Portman Road next season. With debts in the region of £500,000, the Essex club is considering selling its ground.

Ian Porterfield, manager of Ipswich, looks set to move for Tony Cottee, the Watford goalkeeper. Porterfield wants Cottee as a replacement for Jim Leighton, the Scotland goalkeeper, who is likely to join Alex Ferguson, his former Aberdeen manager, at Manchester United.

Doug Rougie, the Brighton captain, has asked for a transfer after failing to regain his place in the side.

Peter Beagrie of Sheffield United has escaped a one-match disciplinary ban.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL: National League: Montreal Expos 5, Chicago Cubs 1; Pittsburgh Pirates 10, Los Angeles Dodgers 5; Philadelphia Phillies 2, Houston Astros 1; Atlanta Braves 10, St. Louis Cardinals 1; New York Yankees 10, Boston Red Sox 1; Cleveland Indians 2, Texas Rangers 1; New York Mets 1, Milwaukee Braves 1; St. Paul Red Sox 1, Detroit Tigers 1.

FOOTBALL: Sunday Mirror Combination: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. United Hospitals Cup: First division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Second division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Third division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Fourth division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0.

GOLF: TOTTENHAM: First division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Second division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Third division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Fourth division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0.

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## Kettering seek to confirm standing

Non-League football by Paul Newman

The rapidly changing situation at the top of the NLF National Conference could take on a new dimension tomorrow. While Barnet, whose lead has been whittled away in recent weeks to just one point, go to fifth-placed Kidderminster Harriers, Kettering Town can confirm their status as realistic challengers when they entertain Lincoln City, who are second.

Kettering were so much out of contention for the championship that when the Football League inspected the grounds of candidates for promotion to the fourth division, earlier this month they visited only Barnet and Lincoln. However, Kettering's run in the last two months of seven wins and three draws in 10 matches has coincided with Barnet dropping 21 points out of a possible 36 and Lincoln 18 out of 39.

Yet only last Saturday it seemed that Kettering still had too much ground to make up. The balance of power, which had shifted between the top two almost every week since the turn of the year, appeared to have tilted decisively in Lincoln's

## WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

EUROPEAN CUP: Benfica (Port) v PSV Eindhoven 0-1. Real Madrid (Spain) v Tottenham (England) 2-0. Arsenal (England) v Tottenham (England) 2-0. Tottenham (England) v Arsenal (England) 2-0. Tottenham (England) v Arsenal (England) 2-0.

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BASEBALL: National League: Montreal Expos 5, Chicago Cubs 1; Pittsburgh Pirates 10, Los Angeles Dodgers 5; Philadelphia Phillies 2, Houston Astros 1; Atlanta Braves 10, St. Louis Cardinals 1; New York Yankees 10, Boston Red Sox 1; Cleveland Indians 2, Texas Rangers 1; New York Mets 1, Milwaukee Braves 1; St. Paul Red Sox 1, Detroit Tigers 1.

FOOTBALL: Sunday Mirror Combination: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. United Hospitals Cup: First division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Second division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Third division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Fourth division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0.

GOLF: TOTTENHAM: First division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Second division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Third division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0. Fourth division: Tottenham 2, Swindon 0.

## YACHTING

# San Diego study de Savary claim

By Barry Pickthall

Can the San Diego Yacht Club renounce its offer to accept multiple challenges for the America's Cup? The question was raised yesterday after a week of stalling by the Californian club following Peter de Savary's announcement last Thursday that his British syndicate would have a K-Boat Cup challenger built in time for the proposed races in September.

The Blue Arrow group is exploiting an eleven-hour legal action taken by the club's attorney during a hearing in the New York Supreme Court in February when the club was under pressure to delay the event until next year to allow other challengers time to build their boats.

The offer made then to meet the winner of a sail-off between challengers in 1987 with water-tight yachts complying with New Zealand's original challenge was delivered in the belief that no one would be able to build a boat in available time.

The announcement by de Savary since has caught the club unawares, and American legal experts are looking to see if they can torpedo the British challenge because it is smaller than the New Zealand vessel.

De Savary remains coy about the exact dimensions of his challenger, stating only that they do not exceed New Zealand's measurements. However, the British syndicate head gave a clue this week when he said that the boat would be flown to San Diego in July aboard a jumbo

jet. That limits the beam to 11ft 6in and depth to 8ft 2in (the size of the nose door on a jumbo) and even the boat's deck appendages may be removable, this width is still considerably less than New Zealand's waterline beam of 14ft.

The Americans have drawn a similar conclusion. Tom Ehman, the vice-president of Sail America, organizers of the defence, said: "Talking to Peter de Savary, his boat is considerably smaller [than New Zealand] and of an unusual design."

The Blue Arrow group remained unperturbed. A spokesman said: "We have the court order from San Diego and a letter of acceptance from New Zealand. Now we are just going to get on and build the boat and have it ready to take on the New Zealanders off San Diego in August."

Judging by Wednesday's inconclusive meeting in Los Angeles between the New Zealand lawyer, Andrew Johns, and a delegation from the San Diego Yacht Club to thrash out final details for this year's America's Cup, it is having an equally hard time breaking the Californian win-at-all-costs approach to the event.

A further round of litigation between New Zealand and San Diego seems inevitable. The only question that remains is whether de Savary will be forced to take a similar route to force San Diego to accept Britain's challenge, too.

## Crewsearch glory sought by sailors

By Barry Pickthall

Seventy sailors, including 11 women, are scheduled to take up the second Crewsearch challenge at Cowes this weekend to find tomorrow's international offshore sailors to represent Britain in the Admiral's Cup series, the Keeweenaw Cup in Hawaii - and even the America's Cup.

This successful nationwide scheme, sponsored jointly by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), has attracted more than 1,500 applications for 700 places in the regional trials organized by the RYA.

This week, the former yachtman of the year and America's Cup skipper, Harold Cadmore, together with the women's champion, Titch Balderson, will be putting these crews through their paces and help those with determination and potential to break through to the top.

In addition, Graham Walker, the British Admiral's Cup team captain, has arranged all trials to take place on the water, and the sailors will be able to see the ship to ship action, and the sailors will be able to see the ship to ship action, and the sailors will be able to see the ship to ship action.

Listed among this week's highly qualified trialists are four sailors who already hold "yachtmaster" certificates, six sailing instructors, an Olympic contender and at least a dozen more with 10,000 sea miles to their credit. All expect Crewsearch to provide them with a passport into yachting's big time, as it has for at least twelve generations from the first trial at Torquay last weekend.

Ten of these sailors, including the six finalists now in line for one of £1,000 training bursaries, have been invited for a further trial with Peter de Savary's Blue Arrow America's Cup syndicate.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

# Professional approach to the amateur game

By Keith Macklin

When Tom O'Donovan, an Irishman from Limerick who was then living in Chester, met Eileen, a Yorkshire woman from Dewsbury, on holiday in the mid-1970s, his opening words were "Dewsbury? Don't they play Rugby League there?"

That was the extent of O'Donovan's knowledge of Rugby League, but less than 15 years on he has been appointed the first national development officer of the British Amateur Rugby League Association.

The main factor in the metamorphosis of O'Donovan from philistine to die-hard was the fact that he and Eileen eventually married, and the man from Limerick, in Chester, where his father was a hotel head waiter, to live in Dewsbury in the heart of Yorkshire Rugby League.

In professional life he has had several roles, including that of salesman and declares that his appointment as the amateur game's national development officer is "a surprise, and the biggest thrill of my life. I wanted the job, but there were 80 applicants and I knew the competition was fierce. For me it's the chance of a lifetime, and the challenge is to make amateur Rugby League a truly national game by the centenary year of 1995."

## BOWLS

# England still unbeaten

England found Ireland a much tougher proposition than they had anticipated yesterday, but recovered from an early deficit to maintain their unbeaten record in the CIS Home International series at Hartlepool (David Rhys Jones writes).

English strength in depth was demonstrated when, despite losing heavily on two of their most reliable rinks, skipped by Bell and Bryant, the remaining rinks more than made up for the

## THE TIMES James Capel



## CREWSEARCH

Another offer to a trial to all finalists from the 10 regional Crewsearch events is Graham Walker, who is keen to check out potential crew for his Crusader 12-metre. She is scheduled to be launched at Hamble over the weekend. The sailor is being shipped to Sweden for the world championship event in July.

Also included in the Crewsearch activities at Cowes at the weekend, being coordinated by the Island Sailing Club, is a film presentation open to all concerned on Saturday night by Bill Edgerston, the RYA's national technical coach.

The Crewsearch trials commence tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the Island Sailing Club, on the west side of Cowes Harbour, and continue through to Sunday afternoon, when six finalists to represent the British team will be named in the Club at 5 p.m.

The trials themselves will be conducted aboard two easily identifiable Contessa class yachts just off Cowes Green. CREWSEARCH ITINERARY: April 23-24: Cowes, Isle of Wight; May 1-2: Lymington, Hampshire; May 3-4: Lymington, Hampshire; May 5-6: Lymington, Hampshire; May 7-8: Lymington, Hampshire; May 9-10: Lymington, Hampshire; May 11-12: Lymington, Hampshire; May 13-14: Lymington, Hampshire; May 15-16: Lymington, Hampshire; May 17-18: Lymington, Hampshire; May 19-20: Lymington, Hampshire; May 21-22: Lymington, Hampshire; May 23-24: Lymington, Hampshire; May 25-26: Lymington, Hampshire; May 27-28: Lymington, Hampshire; May 29-30: Lymington, Hampshire; May 31: Lymington, Hampshire.

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